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No. 154

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Supplementary Order Paper

Tuesday, 19 December 1995

Proposed new Standing Orders

Mr SPEAKER to move, in Committee,—

S.O.65 (1): To omit items 1 and 2 and insert the following items—

1. Announcement of the presentation of petitions, papers and reports of select committees.
2. First reading of bills.

S.O.75 (2): To omit the words “, the Budget debate or the Estimates” and insert the words “or the Budget debate”.

S.O.248 (3): To add the following—

A report on an inquiry that has not been considered within 15 sitting days of the presentation of a Government response to it or, if no response is required, within 15 sitting days of the presentation of the report, is discharged and struck off the Order Paper.

S.O.268 (2): To omit this paragraph and insert the following paragraph—

- (2) There may not be more than three orders of the day for the second readings of Members' bills before the House at any one time. The Clerk rejects any notices that would lead to more than this number.

S.O.335 (1): To omit the words “separately of—” and insert the words “of, separately,—”.

S.O.372 (1): To omit this paragraph and insert the following paragraph—

- (1) Subject to the Standing Orders, oral questions are taken at the time appointed by Standing Order 65.

S.O.383 (3): To omit the final sentence.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- S.O.65 (1): Items 1 and 2 are all formal announcements made by the Clerk at 2 pm. The amendment makes the order of the announcements—petitions, papers, select committee reports and first reading of bills.
- S.O.75 (2): Draft S.O.323 (1) represents the current rule that Estimates can only be taken on a Government day and not on a private members' Wednesday. The amendment to draft S.O.75 (2) is to make it consistent with draft S.O.323 (1).
- S.O.248 (3): This amendment provides for consideration of select committee reports on inquiries to be removed from the Order Paper if they have not been dealt with within 15 sitting days.
- S.O.268 (2): As the first debate in the House on bills is now to take place at the second reading stage it is necessary for the limitation of not more than three such bills standing on the Order Paper to apply at that stage rather than at the introduction stage. The amendment requires the Clerk not to accept notices for the introduction of Members' bills if to do so would result in more than three standing on the Order Paper for second reading.
- S.O.335 (1): This is to make it clearer that the Crown entities and State enterprises debates are two separate debates
- S.O.372 (1): The references to "Thursday" and "Wednesday" were wrongly transposed in the draft Standing Order. The paragraph has been substituted to refer to the order of business set out in draft Standing Order 65 to make it consistent with other references in the draft Standing Orders.
- S.O.383 (3): As urgent debates are only to be one and a half hours, the general debate is one hour and the House suspends its sitting at 6 pm on a Wednesday rather than 5.30 pm, it is impossible, where a general debate follows an urgent debate, for the debate to run to 8 pm. In fact it would end between 5.30–6 pm in these circumstances. The final sentence is therefore unnecessary.