

Companion to the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory

SECOND EDITION

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The Office of the Legislative Assembly acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual, and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Office values their contribution to the life of our city and to the Canberra region.



Reference guide

Abbreviation	Full text
ACT	Australian Capital Territory.
Assembly	<p>The Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory, established pursuant to section 8 of the <i>Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988</i> (Cth).</p> <p>The term is also used to denote the period between the first meeting of an Assembly following a general election and, unless the Assembly were to be dissolved earlier by the Governor-General, the polling day for the next general election.</p>
Assembly Debates	Debates of the Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory (Hansard) from 1989 to present. Contained in bound volumes. References are to date and page. For example, Assembly Debates, 21 June 1995, pp 969-971.
<i>Commonwealth Gazette</i>	<i>Commonwealth of Australia Gazette</i> and, from July 1973 until June 1977, <i>Australian Government Gazette</i> .
House of Commons	United Kingdom House of Commons (unless otherwise indicated).
House of Representatives Debates	Debates of the House of Representatives (Hansard). References are to date and page. For example, House of Representatives Debates, 6 March 1991, p 1419.
<i>House of Representatives Practice</i>	<i>House of Representatives Practice</i> . The 7 th Edition, published in 2018, is the edition referred to in the Companion unless otherwise stated.
<i>May</i>	Erskine May, <i>The Law, Privileges, Proceedings and Usage of Parliament</i> . The Twenty-fifth Edition, published in 2019, is the edition referred to in the Companion unless otherwise stated.
<i>McGee</i>	David McGee, <i>Parliamentary Practice in New Zealand</i> . The Fourth Edition, published in 2017, is the edition referred to unless otherwise stated.
Member	Member of the Legislative Assembly
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly
MoP	<i>Minutes of Proceedings</i> of the Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory from 1989 to present. Contained in bound volumes and indexed according to each Assembly. References are to MoP, number, date and page; for example, MoP, No 99, 3 September 2000, p 222.
Non-executive members	Non-executive members are also referred to as private members throughout the text.

Abbreviation	Full text
<i>Notice Paper</i>	<i>Notice Paper</i> of the Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory from 1989 to present. Contained in bound annual volumes. References are to NP, number, date and page. For example, NP, No 78, 16 February 2000, p 123.
<i>Odgers'</i>	<i>Odgers' Australian Senate Practice</i> . The 14 th edition, published in 2016, is the edition referred to in the Companion unless otherwise stated.
OLA	Office of the Legislative Assembly, established by the <i>Legislative Assembly (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Act 2012</i> .
Private members	Private members are also referred to as non-executive members throughout the text.
QNP	<i>Questions on Notice Paper</i> of the Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory from December 2016 to present. Indexed according to Assembly and available online at www.parliament.act.gov.au . References are to QNP number, date and page; for example, QNP, No 22, 17 August 2018, p 4.
<i>Quick and Garran</i>	J Quick and R R Garran, <i>The Annotated Constitution of the Australian Commonwealth</i> , published in 1901.
<i>Redlich</i>	Josef Redlich, <i>The Procedure of the House of Commons: A Study of its History and Present Form</i> , Volumes I, II and III, Archibald Constable & Co Ltd, London, 1908.
Scrutiny Committee	The role of scrutiny of bills and subordinate legislation (scrutiny role) has been performed variously by the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs and the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety.
Senate Debates	Debates of the Senate (Hansard). References are to date and page. For example, Senate Debates, 24 November 1988, pp 2731-2733.
Senate Journals	<i>Journals of the Senate</i> . References are to sessional volume, date and page number. For example, Journals of the Senate, No 108, 15 August 2018, p 34.
Territory	Australian Capital Territory
To date	There are a number of references throughout the Companion stating that 'to date' one matter or another had or had not occurred. 'To date' refers to the date on which primary content for the Second Edition was finalised (on 30 June 2021), prior to publication.

Key legislation

Abbreviation	Name of Act
Acts Interpretation Act	<i>Acts Interpretation Act 1901 (Cth)</i>
Auditor-General Act	<i>Auditor-General Act 1996</i>
Broadcasting Act	<i>Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001</i>
Civil Laws (Wrongs) Act	<i>Civil Laws (Wrongs) Act 2002</i>
Commonwealth Electoral Act	<i>Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 (Cth)</i>
Commonwealth Constitution	<i>Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900 (UK)</i>
Criminal Code	<i>Criminal Code 2002</i>
Electoral Act	<i>Electoral Act 1992</i>
Financial Management Act	<i>Financial Management Act 1996</i>
FOI Act	<i>Freedom of Information Act 2016</i>
Human Rights Act	<i>Human Rights Act 2004</i>
Integrity Commission Act	<i>Integrity Commission Act 2018</i>
Judicial Commissions Act	<i>Judicial Commissions Act 1994</i>
LAMS Act	<i>Legislative Assembly (Members' Staff) Act 1989</i>
Legislation Act	<i>Legislation Act 2001</i>
Oaths and Affirmations Act	<i>Oaths and Affirmations Act 1984</i>
OLA Act	<i>Legislative Assembly (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Act 2012</i>
Ombudsman Act	<i>Ombudsman Act 1989</i>
Parliamentary Privileges Act	<i>Parliamentary Privileges Act 1987 (Cth)</i>
PID Act	<i>Public Interest Disclosure Act 2012</i>
Planning and Development Act	<i>Planning and Development Act 2007</i>
Precincts Act	<i>Legislative Assembly Precincts Act 2001</i>
Proportional Representation (Hare-Clark) Entrenchment Act)	<i>Proportional Representation (Hare-Clark) Entrenchment Act 1994</i>
Public Sector Management Act	<i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i>
Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act	<i>Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1994</i>
Remuneration Tribunal Act	<i>Remuneration Tribunal Act 1995</i>
Self-Government Act	<i>Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988 (Cth)</i>