

*Tabled by the
Government House Leader*

2018-02-26

[Signature]



**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

**REPORT
OF THE
STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 26TH, 2018**

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Your Committee has continued its consideration of the Standing Orders and agreed at its meeting of February 20th, 2018 to recommend to the House the following amendments to come into force on the date of their approval:

- 1. Standing Order 24(3)(b) is amended by adding immediately after Standing Order 24 (3)(b)(iii) the following:**

(iv) Government Orders.

- 2. Standing Order 25 is amended by adding immediately after Standing Order 25(2) the following:**

(3) A Member may make a statement about any subject of interest or concern to him or her.

(4) The subject matter of a Member's Statement may be an anniversary, historic event, some particular accomplishment, the death of a notable person, matters of local, provincial, national or international significance of a non-contentious nature.

(5) Statements by Members shall not be used to comment on aspects of provincial governmental policy or to reflect on a decision or direction of the House.

(6) Statements shall not pose a question but rather express the opinion of the Member.

(7) Statements are not debatable, do not lead to the introduction of a motion and are not responded to by any other Member.

Your Committee further recommend that the following Standing Order be amended on a provisional basis for one year or sooner if so voted by this House:

- 1. Standing Order 92 is amended by renumbering it as Standing Order 92(1), and by adding immediately after that the following:**

(2) A Minister, in his or her discretion, may reply to a petition and the Minister's response shall occupy no more than 90 seconds in so doing.

(3) A Minister's response under Standing Order 92 (2) may be given on the day the petition is presented or the next sitting day only.

(4) Where, in a session, multiple petitions of the same subject matter are presented, a Minister may respond to each petition in the manner contemplated under Standing Order 92 (3), but only one response to a petition with the same subject matter may be made on each sitting day.

On behalf of the Committee I recommend these amendments to the House and shall move their adoption at the appropriate time.

Respectfully submitted,



Hon. Andrew Parsons, MHA
Chair
Standing Orders Committee

Committee Members

David Brazil, MHA

Hon. Siobhan Coady, MHA

Lorraine Michael, MHA

Scott Reid, MHA