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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

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**REPORT OF THE  
STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE  
ON**

**Title of the Speaker**

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*Brought up by the Leader of the House and ordered by the House of Assembly to be printed.*

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon. Michelle O'Byrne MP (Chair)  
Hon. Eric Abetz MP  
Mr Vica Bayley MP  
Mr Simon Behrakis MP  
Dr Shane Broad MP  
Ms Anita Dow MP  
Hon. Jacquie Petrusma MP

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This reference was referred to the Committee by the Speaker as Chair of the Committee for consideration of the terminology associated with the Speaker.

**2. STANDING ORDERS**

- 2.1 The Standing Orders of the House of Assembly are silent on the title of the Speaker.
- 2.2 However, it is customary for Members to refer to a Speaker as "Mr Speaker" or "Madam Speaker" in the House.

**3. ISSUES CONSIDERED**

- 3.1 The Committee gave consideration to the desirability of the House's Standing Orders and terminology being gender-neutral. A number of gender specific terms have already been removed from the Standing Orders by the House's previous resolutions.

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee recommends that the Standing Orders be amended as follows:

After Standing Order 142, insert the following Standing Order:

**142A Title of Speaker**

**Members must address the Speaker by the title "Speaker", or "Honourable Speaker".**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle O'Byrne', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

**Hon. MICHELLE O'BYRNE MP  
CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE  
11 JUNE 2024**