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# PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

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## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

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# REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

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## Members Speaking in the House

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### MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon. Michael Polley MP (Chair)  
Brenton Best MP  
Rene Hidding MP  
Hon David Llewellyn MP  
Brett Whiteley MP

## Report

The Standing Orders Committee reported to the House of Assembly on 26 February 2009 with recommendations for amendments to Standing Orders. These amendments were adopted by the House on the same day.

There was an amendment to Standing Order 141 which prior to the amendments being adopted originally only provided for Members to seek the call from their place in the House and to speak from that place. The change recommended by the Committee was that a Member could, if that Member so wished, speak from one of the newly installed lecterns at the Table of the House that was nearest their own place in the Chamber. The House has used this Standing Order during the period of sittings from 26 February to 28 March 2009.

Standing Order 141 currently reads as follows:-

141. A Member desiring to speak shall rise in the Member's place and shall address the Speaker or may address the Speaker from the lectern nearest to that member's place with head uncovered"

The Leader of the House, the Hon David Llewellyn MP brought to the Committee at its meeting on 30 March 2009 the proposition that the Government Members should be able to use the lectern on the Government side of the Chamber which in some cases was not the lectern nearest their place. Further, it would provide that each of the Parties represented in the House would have their own lectern, saving that the lectern at the end of the Table was disability compliant in so far as it is capable of being adjusted for use by a Member in a wheelchair.

The Committee considered various options before deciding to agree in principle with the proposal made by Mr Llewellyn,

The Leader of the Tasmanian Greens, Mr McKim was present as an observer. He was not in favor of the change and asked that his opposition to the change be recorded.

The Committee further agreed that reference to Members addressing the House "with head uncovered" was anachronistic and should be deleted.

## **Recommendation**

The Committee recommends to the House the adoption of the following new Standing Order 141:-

141. A Member desiring to speak shall rise in the Member's place and shall address the Speaker, or may address the Speaker from a lectern

(a) in the case of Government Members, the lectern on the Government side of the Chamber;

(b) in the case of Opposition Members, the lectern on the Opposition side of the Chamber; and

(c) in the case of all other Members, the lectern at the end of the Table of the House.

**M. R. POLLEY MP**  
**CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**

**28 April 2009**