



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**MEMBER FOR DICKSON**

**Suspension of Standing and Sessional Orders**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 30 November 2000**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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# SPEECH

**Date** Thursday, 30 November 2000  
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**Questioner**  
**Speaker** Abbott, Tony, MP

**Source** House  
**Proof** No  
**Responder**  
**Question No.**

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**Mr ABBOTT** (Warringah—Minister for Employment Services) (9.59 am)—I move:

That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the member for Dickson from making a statement forthwith to explain her actions in relation to the 1996 preference selling deal between the ALP and the Australian Democrats.

Come on, let's have the debate! You say you want the debate: let's have it. Come on! Show a bit of ticker for once.

**Mr SPEAKER**—The minister will resume his seat!

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**Mr McMullan**—I raise a point of order, Mr Speaker. That motion is out of order; there is already a motion before the chair. Unless you are going to rule the Leader of the Opposition's motion out of order, this motion is not in order. You can't avoid ruling forever. One of these motions is out of order and you have to determine which one.

**Mr SPEAKER**—As the Manager of Opposition Business is aware, in consultation with the Clerk—and I concede that the Leader of the Opposition was continuing to address the chamber, not inappropriately—I did not believe that the Leader of the Opposition had a valid motion because I did not believe that I had ruled.

**Mr Lee**—Is that your ruling?

**Mr SPEAKER**—I have so ruled, yes.