



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BUSINESS

SPEECH

Wednesday, 5 February 2003

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH

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Speaker	Abbott, Tony, MP	Question No.	

Mr ABBOTT (Warringah—Leader of the House) (10.34 am)—In response to members opposite and in winding up this debate, let me say that I appreciate their sincerity, I appreciate their concern that the committee system works as well as possible and I am glad to hear from them that they appreciate also the government's sincerity. We simply have a sincere difference on this occasion.

Let me just remind members opposite that what the government is proposing today is to amend standing order 344 for the remainder of this session. I can assure members opposite that, if this change is made, I will be writing to the Procedure Committee to ask it to review the operation of the changed standing order 344 and report, and I am sure we will get a sensible and intelligent report from the committee. So I oppose the amendment and I commend to the House my original motion.

Question put:

That the words proposed to be omitted (**Mr Melham's** amendment) stand part of the question.