

STANDING ORDER 36

MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

*Adjournment re
urgent matter*

36. (1) Leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the House (when made for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance) must be asked after the ordinary daily routine of business (see S.O. 24) has been concluded and before the orders of the day are entered upon.

(2) Where possible and appropriate, notice of leave to make a motion under this Standing Order may be provided to the Speaker before the House opens on the day on which the Standing Order is invoked.

(3) The Member desiring to make such a motion rises in his or her place, asks leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance, and states the matter.

(4) The Member then hands a written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed to the Speaker, who, if he or she thinks it in order and of urgent public importance, reads it out and asks whether the Member has the leave of the House. If objection is taken, the Speaker requests those Members who support the motion to rise in their places and if not less than 12 Members rise accordingly the Speaker calls upon the Member who has asked for leave.

(5) If less than 12 but not less than 3 Members rise in their places, the question whether the Member has leave to move the adjournment of the House shall be put forthwith, without debate, and determined if necessary by a division.

(6) Except with the requisite leave or support the motion cannot be made.

(7) The right to move the adjournment of the House for the above purposes is subject to the following restrictions:

- (a) Not more than one such motion can be made at the same sitting;
- (b) Not more than one matter can be discussed on the same motion;
- (c) The motion must not revive

discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session;

- (d) The motion must not anticipate a matter which has previously been appointed for consideration by the House, or with reference to which a notice of motion has been previously given and withdrawn;
- (e) The motion must not raise a question of privilege;
- (f) The discussion under the motion must not raise any question which, according to the Standing Orders of the House, can only be debated on a distinct motion under notice.

(8) If leave is given for the Speaker to put the motion that the Orders of the Day not be called, the debate under this Standing Order must be concluded no later than 6 o'clock in the evening after which the Speaker adjourns the House without question put.

(1951 SO 23 amended 1999)