

The Bill

The Adult Suffrage Bill 1894

A Bill for an Act to grant the right to vote for persons to sit in Parliament in the Legislative Council and House of Assembly and stand for Parliament to women.

This Bill will give women the rights previously only granted to men.

This copy of the Bill is given to the Facilitator.

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The Speaker

The Speaker is the person who chairs the meeting, understands the Standing Orders (rules) and maintains order in the House of Assembly. The mace is a symbol of the Speaker's authority.

Maintaining Parliamentary order

Remember to introduce each person by their name eg Member for Julie.

Suggested statements to keep order:

'Order! There is far too much noise in the chamber!'

'Order! Honourable Members of the Opposition/Government are making far too much noise!'

'Order! The Honourable Member for _____ will stop interjecting!'

(Facilitator reads the Bill to everyone)

Facilitator: The Bill we are discussing today is ...

SUSPENSION SCRIPT

*If any Member persistently obstructs the business of the House, or breaks one of the rules of the Parliament, the Speaker can suspend the MP for **5 minutes** (in the real Parliament up to one hour). In our Student Parliament the student could sit at the back of the chamber, beyond the bar, rather than leave the room.*

Speaker: The Member for (e.g. Julie or Jack) is suspended for 5 minutes and will leave the chamber.

After 5 minutes has passed:

Speaker: The Member for (e.g. Julie or Jack) may return to their seat in the chamber.

NO CLAPPING SCRIPT

Speaker: The Members of the House are reminded that clapping is not permitted in the chamber under any circumstances.

(Facilitator reads the Bill to everyone)

Facilitator: The Bill we are discussing today is ...

The Opening

(Clerk stands and rings the bell)

Clerk: **Honourable Members please stand.**

(Serjeant-at-Arms and Speaker enter from the centre aisle at the opposite end of the room to the Speaker's chair. Serjeant-at-Arms places mace on right shoulder, stands and walks in front of the Speaker. The Speaker follows one metre behind)

(Serjeant-at-Arms stops two metres into the aisle and stands to the side. The Speaker stays slightly behind the Serjeant-at-Arms and waits to be announced)

(Serjeant-at-Arms announces the Speaker to all the Members)

(Speaker steps in front of the Serjeant-at-Arms and bows to the Government. Government bows back)

(Speaker bows to the Opposition. Opposition bows back)

(Speaker walks to the Speaker's chair and sits down)

(Serjeant-at-Arms follows behind the Speaker and places the mace on a table in front of the Speaker with the crown facing the Government side. The Serjeant-at-Arms walks to his/her seat)

Speaker: **Members, please sit down. Parliament is now in session. The rules of the Parliament must be obeyed. Clerk, please read out the rules.**

(Clerk stands, reads rules, sits)

Speaker: **The Adult Suffrage Bill 1894 will now be debated. Clerk please read out the Bill.**

(Clerk stands, reads Bill, sits)

The Debate

Speaker: I call on the Minister for Education.

(The Minister for stands, introduces and speaks on the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Leader of the Opposition.

(The Leader of the Opposition stands and speaks on the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Premier.

(The Premier stands and speaks on the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Shadow Minister for Education.

(The Shadow Minister for stands and speaks on the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Wattle.

(The Member for Wattle stands and speaks to the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Protea.

The Member for Protea stands and speaks to the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Sturt Desert Pea.

(The Member for Sturt Desert Pea stands and speaks to the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Kangaroo Paw.

(The Member for Kangaroo Paw speaks to the Bill)

Speaker: I call on the Minister for Education.

(The Minister for Education stands and speaks to the Bill)

(The Speaker asks if anyone wishes to speak on the Bill. The Speaker chooses members in turn from Government, Opposition and Independents or Minority Parties, if represented. The Speaker chooses people to speak by saying Member for _____ using their first name e.g. Member for Julie or Member for Vu. Once chosen the remainder of the people standing sit down and wait to be called to stand again by the Speaker.)

Speaker: Stand if you wish to speak.

Speaker: Member for _____

(The Speaker repeats these two lines each time someone chooses to speak)

(When the Facilitator feels that the whole group has contributed, run the Vote.)

The Vote

Speaker: A vote on the Bill will now be taken. Clerk, read the title of the Bill again.

(Clerk stands, reads the Bill, sits)

Speaker: Members who wish to support the Bill, please sit on my right hand side. Members who oppose the Bill, please sit on my left-hand side. Government and Opposition Whips please come out to count the vote.

(Clerk stands and rings the bell while the Members decide on which side they wish to vote)

(When the vote has been counted the Whips will whisper the result to the Speaker and announce the results to the Parliament)

Speaker: The result of the vote is ____ for and ____ against.

*(If the vote is **for** the Bill the Speaker will say)*

Speaker: The Bill has been passed. Serjeant, please take the Bill to the Legislative Council.

OR

*(If the vote is **against** the Bill the Speaker will say)*

Speaker: The Bill has not been passed. We will move to the next item of Business for the Day.

OR

*(If the vote is **tied** the Speaker will say)*

Speaker: There being equal votes for and against the Bill I cast my vote for the Bill because I believe the ideas put forward by the Honourable Members has made me decide to vote for the Bill.

The Clerk

The Clerk has a clear understanding of the Standing Orders (rules) and provides advice to the Speaker on chairing the House of Assembly. The Clerk calls items of business, reads titles of Bills and announces petitions. The Clerk is not politically aligned to any political party.

(If at Parliament, dress up in the traditional costume)

(Clerk stands and rings the bell)

Clerk: Honourable Members please stand.

(The Serjeant-at-Arms escorts the Speaker into the room. The Speaker asks Members to sit down and then opens Parliament. The Speaker asks the Clerk to read out the rules of the Parliament)

(Clerk stands)

Clerk:

- 1. Always stand up to speak.**
- 2. Always address your remarks through the Speaker. Address the Speaker as 'Madam Speaker' or 'Mr. Speaker'.**
- 3. Members speak without interruption.**
- 4. The Speaker keeps order.**

(Clerk sits)

(The Speaker asks the Clerk to read out the Bill. Clerk stands)

**Clerk: The Adult Suffrage Bill 1894.
A Bill for an Act to grant women the right to vote and stand for Parliament.**

(Clerk sits)

(The Speaker asks the Clerk to read out the Bill again after the debate and before the vote)

(Clerk stands)

**Clerk: The Adult Suffrage Bill 1894.
A Bill for an Act to grant women the right to vote and stand for Parliament.**

(Clerk sits)

(The Speaker invites Members stand and vote)

(Clerk stands and rings the bell while the Members decide on which side they wish to vote)

Serjeant-at-Arms

The Serjeant-at-Arms assists the Clerk in their duties. In South Australia this includes a ceremonial role of carrying the Mace and escorting the Speaker to enter the Chamber at the beginning of the meeting. The Serjeant-at-Arms takes part in ceremonial activities and is responsible for security and providing services to Members and visitors.

(If at Parliament, dress up in the traditional costume)

(The Serjeant-at-Arms and the Speaker enter from the centre aisle at the opposite end of the room to the Speaker's chair. The Serjeant-at-Arms places mace on right shoulder, stands and walks in front of the Speaker. The Speaker follows one metre behind)

(The Serjeant-at-Arms stops two metres into the aisle and stands to the side. The Speaker stands slightly behind and waits to be announced)

Serjeant-at-Arms: Honourable Members, the Speaker.

(The Serjeant-at-Arms steps aside. The Speaker steps in front and bows to the Government)

(The Government bows back)

(The Speaker bows to the Opposition)

(The Opposition bows back)

(The Speaker walks to the Speaker's chair and sits down)

(The Serjeant-at-Arms follows behind the Speaker and places the Mace on a table in front of the Speaker with the crown facing the Government side. The Serjeant-at-Arms walks to his/her seat)

Member for Kurrajong

Minister for Education

The Ministers sit on the front benches and are responsible for various portfolios such as Education, Health and Transport. The Education Department is responsible to the Minister for Education. The Minister for Education is responsible to the Parliament. The Minister for Education is the first speaker in the debate.

(The Speaker bows to the Government)

(The Government bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Minister for Education to introduce the Bill.

(The Minister for stands, introduces and speaks to the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

In our wonderful Province of South Australia with our free settlers it is not right that half of these free settlers cannot vote or stand for Parliament.

Many of these women also pay taxation and at the very least any woman who pays tax should also be able to vote "No taxation without representation!"

(The Minister for will be called upon to speak again at the end of the debate to summarise the ideas and try to influence everyone to vote with the Government)

(The Minister for stands)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

It is obvious after the very strong arguments put by the Members on this side of the Chamber that Women must be granted full adult suffrage. It is ridiculous that in our modern society of free settlers that women do not have the same rights as men. They must have suffrage and the right to stand for Parliament. I know all of you will support me in this as we vote.

Member for Boronia

Leader of the Opposition

The Leader of the Opposition leads the Opposition Party. The opposition is the major political party that won the second most seats in the House of Assembly during the last election.

The Leader of the Opposition is the second speaker in the debate.

(The Speaker bows to the Opposition)

(The Opposition bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Leader of the Opposition.

(The Leader of the Opposition stands and replies to the Minister for introduction of the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

As you will all know men and women are not the same? Women are pure and delicate and enjoy the respect of men in this purity and delicacy. This would be at risk if they are granted the vote.

The duties and life of men and women are divinely ordered to be different both in the home and in the State.

We must protect our women from this risk.

Member for Grevillea

The Premier

The Premier is the leader of the Government in the House of Assembly. The Government is formed by winning the most seats in the House of Assembly. They choose the Ministers, who are responsible for running the State of South Australia through the various government departments. The Premier is the third speaker in the debate.

(The Speaker bows to the Government)

(The Government bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Premier.

(The Premier stands and speaks to the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

Do the people of our wonderful Province of South Australia realise that the most idle, uneducated and unprincipled men can vote when the most highly educated and responsible women can **not** vote! Do you see how ridiculous this situation is for our tax paying and highly educated women?

Recently in 1870 we opened the Advanced Secondary School for Girls and the University of Adelaide gave women access to degrees.

Surely these same women, and in fact all women, should be able to vote.

Member for Banksia

Shadow Minister for Education

**Shadow Ministers are Members of the Opposition. They are responsible for shadowing or following Ministerial portfolios.
The Shadow Minister for Education is the fourth speaker in the debate.**

(The Speaker bows to the Opposition)

(The Opposition bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Shadow Minister for.....

(The Shadow Minister for stands and speaks to the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

Women have enough duties to perform in the home and society. Many of the roles of women cannot be carried out by men. Who will carry out these duties? Who will look after the children and the family?

Suffrage logically involves the holding of public office, which is inconsistent with the duties of most women.

Member for Wattle

Government Backbencher

**Government Backbenchers are Members of the Government who won a seat at the last election but do not hold a Ministerial portfolio.
The Member for Wattle is the fifth speaker in the debate.**

(The Speaker bows to the Government)

(The Government bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Wattle.

(The Member for Wattle stands and speaks to the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

South Australia is a leader in social reform in giving women property owners the right to vote in Council elections since 1861 and as you heard earlier women can take their degrees at the University of Adelaide since 1870.

South Australia needs to continue this social reform and continue being a leader in our modern society and what better way to do this than have women vote and stand for Parliament.

Member for Protea Opposition Backbencher

**Opposition Backbenchers are Members of the Opposition who won a seat at the last election but do not hold a Shadow Ministerial portfolio.
The Member for Protea is the sixth speaker in the debate.**

(The Speaker bows to the Opposition)

(The Opposition bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Protea.

(The Member for Protea stands and speaks to the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

Women do not want this duty of voting or taking on public office thrust upon them. Women are happy in their homes carry out their household duties. Women are represented by the men from their household when they vote. They do not need to be involved in these duties and they do not want men to thrust this on them.

Member for Sturt Desert Pea Government Backbencher

**Government Backbenchers are Members of the government who won a seat at the last election but who do not hold a Ministerial portfolio.
The Member for Sturt Desert Pea is the seventh speaker in the debate.**

(The Speaker bows to the Government)

(The Government bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Sturt Desert Pea.

(The Member for Sturt Desert Pea stands and speaks to the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

Surely women who can stand the strain of ordinary life in caring for children and family they can also stand the strain of walking to the polling booth and in some cases the harsh realities of public life in standing for Parliament.

Member for Kangaroo Paw

Opposition Backbencher

**Opposition Backbenchers are Members of the Opposition who won a seat at the last election but do not hold a Shadow Ministerial portfolio.
The Member for Kangaroo Paw is the eighth speaker in the debate.**

(The Speaker bows to the Opposition)

(The Opposition bows back)

Speaker: I call on the Member for Kangaroo Paw.

(The Member for Kangaroo Paw stands and speaks to the Bill)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

I stand representing the 2,060 people who signed a petition concerned that if we grant women the vote and the right to stand for Parliament that this will adversely influence licensing and hotel trading hours.

We cannot support this Adult Suffrage Bill when we think about this very great concern.

Member for Correa

Government Whip

The Government Whip is a Political Party Manager in Parliament who is responsible for arranging the business of their House of Parliament. The Whip organises Members of his/her Party to take part in debates. The Whip counts the votes after a debate.

(The Speaker bows to the Government)

(The Government bows back)

(When the Speaker invites anyone to speak on the Bill The Whip can contribute to the debate with a personally scripted speech or a spontaneous speech)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

(The Speaker calls on the Whips to count the vote)

(The Government Whip leaves his/her seat and stands next to the Clerk. If the Government Whip wishes to vote no he/she tells the Opposition Whip to include his/her vote in their count. The Government Whip counts the people on the Government side)

(The Whip whispers the result to the Speaker)

Member for Eucalyptus

Opposition Whip

The Opposition Whip is a Political Party Manager in Parliament who is responsible for arranging the business of their House of Parliament. The Whip organises Members of his/her Party to take part in debates. The Whip counts the votes after a debate.

(The Speaker bows to the Opposition)

(The Opposition bows back)

(When the Speaker invites anyone to speak on the Bill The Whip can contribute to the debate with a personally scripted speech or a spontaneous speech)

Madam/Mr. Speaker,

(The Speaker calls on the Whips to count the vote)

(The Opposition Whip leaves his/her seat and stands next to the Clerk. If the Opposition Whip wishes to vote no he/she tells the Government Whip to include his/her vote in their count. The Opposition Whip counts the people on the Opposition side)

(The Whip whispers the result to the Speaker)