



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement
Western Cape Provincial Parliament
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

RULE OF ANTICIPATION

FACT SHEET 7

REVISION 1, 12 JULY 2016

The rule of anticipation prevents a Member from discussing a matter that appears on the Order Paper, whether it is a Bill or a motion. Such a discussion is “blocked” by the matter appearing on the Order Paper. This rule prevents a Member from attempting to pre-empt a decision on a matter already on the Order Paper by introducing a second identical matter or one similar enough to be considered the same. When a point of order is raised in this regard, the Chair’s decision is guided by the principle that the most effective form of proceeding with the matter ought to take precedence.

The rule of anticipation is subject to the following exceptions:

- a) The rule does not apply to the discussion of a matter of urgent public importance.
- b) In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of this rule, the Presiding Officer has to have regard to the probability that the matter will be brought before the House within a reasonable time.
- c) The referral of a matter to a standing committee does not preclude its consideration by the House. However, Members should be careful not to influence the decision of the committee and should therefore not delve deeply into the detail of such a matter.
- d) The rule does not apply during the discussion of the schedule to an appropriation Bill.

The rule of anticipation applies to:

- a) Statements by Ministers;
- b) Personal explanations by Members; and
- c) Notices of motion that actually appear on the Order Paper.