

**Divorce, Dissolution and Separation (Isle of Man) Bill 2020 –
Standing Orders suspended to take Third Reading**

The Hon. Member for Garff (Mrs Caine) to move:

That Standing Orders, and in particular Standing Order 4.11 (1), be suspended to permit Third Reading of the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation (Isle of Man) Bill 2020 to be taken at this sitting.

The Speaker: As you will see on your Order Paper, the Hon. Member for Garff, Mrs Caine, intends to move Third Reading, but first she will need support to suspend Standing Orders.
Mrs Caine to move.

Mrs Caine: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I beg to move that Standing Orders, and in particular Standing Order 4.11 (1), be suspended to permit Third Reading of the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation (Isle of Man) Bill 2020 to be taken at this sitting.

The Speaker: Mrs Barber.

Mrs Barber: Thank you, I beg to second.

The Speaker: Mr Hooper.

Mr Hooper: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

I just would appreciate an explanation from the Hon. Member why she feels this is necessary. We are working through some difficult times at the minute and I appreciate there sometimes is a need to speed things up, so I would just like to get some clarification on why, in this instance, suspending Standing Orders and taking the Third Reading today rather than at the next sitting is desirable.

The Speaker: Mrs Caine to reply.

Mrs Caine: Thank you, Mr Speaker, and I thank the Hon. Member for his query.

My feeling is that this Bill has been a very long time in preparation and in consultation. In fact, I think it is 18 months before I first applied for Leave to Introduce, back in October 2018. I also feel that it was published earlier in the year and was actually ready to proceed in March, so I would hope that Hon. Members feel there has been adequate time to go through it fully and appreciate the significant change that this would involve in terms of improving the situation for members of the community who might be going through a divorce or a dissolution in the coming years.

I would also say that the particular reason I wished to take it through at this sitting was one eye on the amount of legislation that is coming towards the Hon. House, but also in order to enable it to go up to the Legislative Council in the hope that it might be able to complete its passage through the Upper Chamber before the summer recess.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you.

The motion is that Standing Orders, in particular Standing Order 4.11 (1), be suspended to permit Third Reading of the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation (Isle of Man) Bill 2020 to be taken at this sitting.

I presume the motion will be carried unless any Member indicates dissent, which they should do now. No dissent being indicated, the motion therefore carries.