

Duration of Debates and Speaking Time Limits of Members in Debates¹

<u>Types of motions on which debates may arise</u>	<u>Duration of each debate</u> <i>(including voting on the motion and amendment(s) thereto)</i>	<u>Number of speech(es) allowed for individual Members in each debate</u>	<u>Maximum time for a speech</u>
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(Unless otherwise specified, the time limits below apply to all Members including the mover of a motion and the mover of an amendment to a motion.)

I. Motions relating to bills

♦ Resumption of the second reading debate	<i>The President or the Chairman of a committee of the whole Council may set a time limit on the consideration of individual bills where appropriate</i>	1 ²	10 mins
♦ Consideration by committee of the whole Council (Amendment(s) to a bill/Clause(s) standing part of a bill)		Multiple	5 mins
♦ Third reading debate		1	3 mins

II. Government motions

♦ Motions under Rule 29(1) of the Rules of Procedure	<i>Not more than 4 hrs</i>	1	5 mins
♦ Motions under Rule 29(2) of the Rules of Procedure to amend subsidiary legislation and other instruments			

¹ The President or the Chairman of a committee of the whole Council may in his discretion adjust the relevant duration of debates and speaking time limits.

² A Member making a report of a Bills Committee or of a committee to which a bill has been referred for consideration under Rule 54(4) of the Rules of Procedure may speak on the report with no time limit and may speak a second time subject to the 10-minute time limit in the second reading debate.

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III. Members' motions

- ◆ Motions under Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law to summon persons concerned to produce papers and testify
- ◆ Motions under Article 73(9) of the Basic Law to impeach the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
- ◆ Motions under Article 75 of the Basic Law to amend the Rules of Procedure
- ◆ Motions under Article 159 of the Basic Law relating to amendments to the Basic Law
- ◆ Other motions under the Basic Law
- ◆ Motions under the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance to appoint select committees to conduct inquiries

Not more than 4 hrs

1³

5 mins

³ The mover, apart from having up to 5 minutes for an introductory speech, may speak for up to 5 minutes in reply and also up to 5 minutes on the proposed amendment(s), if any.

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♦ Motions under Rule 16(2) of the Rules of Procedure for the adjournment of the Council	Not more than 1.5 hrs	1 ⁴	5 mins
♦ Motions under Rule 16(4) of the Rules of Procedure for the adjournment of the Council	Not more than 1.5 hrs <i>(including 15 mins for designated public officer(s) to reply)</i>	1	5 mins
♦ Motions under Rule 29(2) of the Rules of Procedure to amend subsidiary legislation and other instruments	Not more than 4 hrs	1 ⁵	5 mins
♦ Motions under Rule 49B(1) of the Rules of Procedure to relieve a Member of his duties	} Not more than 4 hrs	1 ⁶	5 mins
♦ Motions under Rule 49B(1A) of the Rules of Procedure to censure a Member			

(Unless otherwise specified, the time limits below apply to all Members including the mover of a motion and the mover of an amendment to a motion.)

^{4,6} The mover, apart from having up to 5 minutes for an introductory speech, may speak for up to 5 minutes in reply.

⁵ The mover, apart from having up to 5 minutes for an introductory speech, may speak for up to 5 minutes in reply and also up to 5 minutes on the proposed amendment(s), if any.

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♦ Motions under Rule 49E(2) of the Rules of Procedure (Motions on Reports of House Committee on Consideration of Subsidiary Legislation and Other Instruments)	Not more than 2 hrs	1 <small>(for whole debate if it is not divided into sessions)</small>	1 <small>(for each session when debate divided into sessions)</small>
♦ Motions under Rule 85 of the Rules of Procedure (Sanctions relating to Interests, Operating Expenses or Operating Funds)	Not more than 4 hrs	17	5 mins
♦ Motions not intended to have legislative effect that are subject to allocation of slots to individual Members			
➤ <i>Mover of the motion</i>	} Not more than 4 hrs		
- introductory speech and reply		1	10 mins (in total)
- speech on proposed amendment(s)		1	5 mins (in total)
➤ <i>Mover of amendment to the motion/ Other speakers</i>		1	5 mins

⁷ The mover, apart from having up to 5 minutes for an introductory speech, may speak for up to 5 minutes in reply and also up to 5 minutes on the proposed amendment(s), if any.

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IV. Other motions moved by Members or public officers under the following provisions of the Rules of Procedure:

- ◆ Rule 40(1) or (4)
(Adjournment of Debate or of Proceedings of a Committee of the Whole Council)
- ◆ Rule 49B(2A)
(Disqualification of Member from Office)
- ◆ Rule 54(4)
(Second Reading)
- ◆ Rule 55(1)(a)
(Committal of Bills)
- ◆ Rule 84(3A) or (4)
(Voting or Withdrawal in case of Direct Pecuniary Interest)
- ◆ Rule 88(1)
(Withdrawal of Members of the Press and of the Public)
- ◆ Rule 89(2)
(Procedure for Obtaining Leave for Member to Attend as Witness in Civil Proceedings)
- ◆ Rule 90(2)
(Procedure for Obtaining Leave to Give Evidence of Council Proceedings)
- ◆ Rule 91
(Suspension of Rules)

Not more than 2 hrs

1⁸

3 mins

⁸ The mover, apart from having up to 3 minutes for an introductory speech, may speak for up to 3 minutes in reply.