

Tabling by leave

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If a report or document is not required to be tabled by an Act of Parliament, it can still be tabled providing the House agrees.

A minister in each House must ask for leave (permission) of the House to table a document. If at least one of the Houses grants leave, the document becomes publicly available.

Seeking leave

Tabling by leave means asking the permission of the House to table the document. Leave is refused if even one member disagrees, therefore it may be a good idea to consult with the other parties and any independents before tabling occurs.

Procedure at the time of tabling

Unlike documents tabled under Acts, documents tabled by leave must be tabled by a minister. This means the relevant minister in each House must be in the Chamber at the time of tabling.

Tabling occurs on:

- Tuesday, during formal business, after question time
- Wednesday, during formal business, from 9.30 am
- Thursday, during formal business, from 9.30 am

The clerks at the table will have a copy of the document for the minister to table and a reader which sets out the wording for the minister. The minister, however, must be present.

If the minister is not available to be in the Chamber at the time of tabling, arrangements should be made with another minister, who will be present, to table the report. If this occurs, please advise the Assembly Procedure Office (9651 8560) if the change is in the Assembly or the Council Table Office (9651 8673) if the change is in the Council.

Copies and tabling letter

Before the document can be tabled, you must provide:

- 2 hard copies if your document is more than 250 pages – delivered to the Assembly Procedure Office (the Assembly will then share a copy with the Council).
Note: if the document is produced by a body with a close relationship with Parliament, we may require more stock — contact the Assembly Procedure Office on 9651 8563 or tabling@parliament.vic.gov.au to confirm numbers.
- pdf copy — emailed to tabling@parliament.vic.gov.au.
- A letter signed by the relevant minister — you can email 1 letter addressed to both clerks jointly to tabling@parliament.vic.gov.au.
The letter should list that the document is to be tabled by leave, the minister who will be tabling it in each House, and if applicable, what date the document is to be tabled.

The document cannot be tabled if we have not received the letter, hard copies (if applicable) and pdf by the tabling deadlines.

Read more about these requirements, including the delivery deadlines, in our [Guide to tabling](#).

Contact us

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| Assembly Procedure Office Phone: 9651 8563 assembly@parliament.vic.gov.au | Council Table Office Phone: 9651 8678 council@parliament.vic.gov.au |
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You can email pdf copies to tabling@parliament.vic.gov.au