



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

## AMENDMENTS

# FACT SHEET 10

REVISION 1, 11 JULY 2016

Broadly speaking, an amendment can be defined as presenting the House with an alternative to the original proposal.

There are three kinds of amendments. One can make an amendment:

- by leaving out words;
- by leaving out words in order to substitute other words; and
- by inserting or adding words.

The mover of an amendment must submit it in writing, sign it and, if moved during debate, deliver a copy at the Table. It is also helpful to circulate copies to Members in the Chamber. No amendment may be moved to an earlier part of a question after an amendment to a later part has been decided. The Presiding Officer decides the order in which amendments are put.

First and foremost, amendments must be relevant and may not render the original question unintelligible.

Furthermore, an amendment may not extend the scope of the original question, for example:

**Original question:** That smoking be prohibited.

**Amendment:** That smoking and drinking be prohibited.

An amendment may also not be moved if it is a direct negative to the question, for example:

**Original question:** That smoking be prohibited.

**Amendment:** That smoking not be prohibited.

The reason is that the same effect could be achieved by voting down the original question.

As with a motion, an amendment once moved becomes the property of the House and can only be withdrawn with leave of the House.

An amendment may also be moved to a proposed amendment as if the proposed amendment were the original question. The procedure of moving an amendment to an amendment is used where, for example, a Member wishes to agree to words which are proposed to be inserted, but wishes to modify them.