

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

AT SITTING OF 3 OCTOBER 2022

Honourable Members,

With Singapore becoming more COVID-resilient, we have been easing Safe Management Measures in the community. Here in Parliament, we have also been adjusting our measures, even as we continue to prioritise the safeguarding of Members' health and well-being. And thanks to everyone's efforts and strong commitment, we have moved steadfastly towards normalcy.

2 Hence, I am pleased that, starting today, we have taken yet another step forward. Members will now be seated according to the revised seating arrangement within the Chamber without a need for split team arrangement. This also means that all Members can now take their breaks together, in **one** room.

3 But even as we further ease the measures in Parliament, we will persist with a certain level of vigilance. And so, Members are still required to do an ART self-test before coming to Parliament House on Sitting days. And seats in the Speaker's Gallery within the Chamber will continue to be

set aside for Members who are also close contacts of COVID cases but have themselves tested negative for COVID.

4 As always, we will monitor the public health advisories and make adjustments according to the prevailing situation.

5 Once again, I wish to thank all Members for your forbearance and diligence in adhering to Parliament's COVID measures, which had been in place since early 2020. Your efforts have allowed us to carry on with our duties as parliamentarians during a critical time for Singapore and have also facilitated our quick return to business as usual. And so, let us not tire – but let us remain committed to whatever is necessary for us to chart the way forward for Singapore.

Thank you.
