



Speech by

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE**

**MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE**

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Hansard 10 November 1999

**PRIVILEGE**

**Anzac Day Legislation**

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE** (Surfers Paradise—NPA) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.16 a.m.): I rise on a matter of privilege suddenly arising. I wish to quote into the parliamentary record the facts—

"Mr Gibbs's spokesman said if the State RSL was disappointed in the Labor party's intention to vote against the proposal, it could have said so the first time the Bill was proposed.

'Why did it never make any submission on this Bill the last time?' the spokesman said.

'If they want us to crack down on nightclubs and bars, we will have to look at our policy of turning a blind eye to Diggers drinking rum at 4.30 in the morning with their cornflakes.'

**Mr SPEAKER:** I have got the member's point of order.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** No, it is a matter of privilege. The point is that the Minister has used his office to seek to intimidate the RSL in terms of expressing opposition.

**Mr SPEAKER:** That is not a matter of privilege.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** This is legislation before the Parliament.

**Mr GIBBS:** I rise to a point of order. I find that comment highly offensive and I ask that it be withdrawn.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The Minister asks that it be withdrawn.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** If the Minister was overseas at the World Cup in Cardiff and was not aware of what his office was saying, I will withdraw whatever he finds offensive.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Good. The Leader of the Opposition will resume his seat.

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