



Speech by

**JEFF SEENEY**

**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

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Hansard 15 May 2001

**FISHERIES AMENDMENT BILL**

**Mr SEENEY** (Callide—NPA) (8.08 p.m.): I am not going to repeat everything that the Leader of the Opposition and the shadow minister have said, but let me put on record that I agree with it and that, if they had not said it, I would have.

However, I cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing my deep and sincere regret at the way that this debate has been conducted this afternoon and at the way the minister has handled this piece of legislation.

I say quite genuinely that I feel a bit sorry for the minister. He has obviously been sent in here unprepared by his staff. He has been totally abandoned—

**Mr SPEAKER:** We have heard this about eight or 10 times now. If you have not got anything new to say—

**Mr SEENEY:** I am expressing my sympathy for the minister.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I know, but we have heard that a number of times.

**Mr SEENEY:** I am expressing my sympathy for the minister. I have not done that before, but I think it is a genuine point to make.

The government has not elected to support one of its own in a situation in which he should have expected that he would have got that support. It is another example of the way in which the government is treating this parliament with contempt. I wanted to put that on record in this third reading debate, which I appreciate is not an opportunity to repeat everything that we said before.

I want to record my sincere disappointment and I hope that in the future legislation will be introduced into this parliament with more respect and that this parliament will be treated with more respect than has been the case this afternoon.

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