



Speech by

**Judy Spence**

**MEMBER FOR SUNNYBANK**

Hansard Wednesday, 17 June 2009

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**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL;  
INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT (ASSET RESTRUCTURING AND  
DISPOSAL) BILL; FUEL SUBSIDY REPEAL AND REVENUE AND  
OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

**Ms SPENCE** (Sunnybank—ALP) (Leader of the House) (10.49 am): I have a number of concerns about the opposition's amendment. Firstly, if the amendment were to be agreed to, none of these bills would be passed until August—until after the estimates process. That would mean, in effect, that employers would not get their payroll concessions for employing apprentices from 1 July. If we waited until August, it would also mean that first homeowners would miss out on their concessions from 1 July. So for the people of Queensland there are important reasons for these bills to be passed this week.

Secondly, I am concerned about all this nonsense in this amendment that has been put forward. It refers to the appropriation bill as being part of standing orders in part 6, which it appropriately is. I think the opposition has a poor understanding of what appropriation bills are all about. It is clear in the standing orders that the estimates committee process is about appropriation bills. What is an appropriation bill? It is a bill to give the Treasurer the authority to go to consolidated revenue and appropriate that revenue in a fashion that the government of the day believes is sensible. That is, it gives authority for the government to spend consolidated revenue funds for the next 12 months in a reasonable fashion. It is not about the types of measures that are contained in these bills. So it is absolute nonsense for the opposition today to move an amendment that makes some sort of veiled suggestion that these measures should be contained in an appropriation bill. That is not what appropriation bills are about.

There is some advantage in having old, experienced people in this parliament. I am one of those people and I remember sitting here at 2 am, 3 am on a Saturday morning debating appropriation bills because every member in this chamber wanted the opportunity to speak about the budget. I have given an undertaking today that any member in this place who wants to speak to these bills will have that opportunity over Thursday and Friday of this week, just as they have always had in the Queensland parliament for years and years and years. I move—

That the question be put.

Question put—That the question be put.

Motion agreed to.

Division: Question put—That the member for Callide's amendment be agreed to.

**AYES, 36**—Bates, Bleijie, Crandon, Cripps, Cunningham, Davis, Dempsey, Douglas, Dowling, Elmes, Emerson, Flegg, Foley, Gibson, Hobbs, Hopper, Johnson, Knuth, Langbroek, McArdle, McLindon, Malone, Menkens, Nicholls, Powell, Pratt, Rickuss, Robinson, Seene, Simpson, Sorensen, Springborg, Stevens, Stuckey. Tellers: Horan, Messenger

**NOES, 51**—Attwood, Bligh, Boyle, Choi, Croft, Darling, Dick, Farmer, Finn, Fraser, Grace, Hinchliffe, Hoolihan, Jarratt, Johnstone, Jones, Kilburn, Lawlor, Lucas, Male, Miller, Moorhead, Mulherin, Nelson-Carr, Nolan, O'Brien, O'Neill, Palaszczuk, Pitt, Reeves,

Roberts, Robertson, Ryan, Schwarten, Scott, Shine, Smith, Spence, Stone, Struthers, Sullivan, van Litsenburg, Wallace, Watt, Wellington, Wells, Wendt, Wettenhall, Wilson. Tellers: Keech, Kiernan

Resolved in the negative.

Non-government amendment (Mr Seeney) negatived.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! I advise honourable members that for further divisions on this matter the bells will ring for two minutes.

Division: Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

**AYES, 51**—Attwood, Bligh, Boyle, Choi, Croft, Darling, Dick, Farmer, Finn, Fraser, Grace, Hinchliffe, Hoolihan, Jarratt, Johnstone, Jones, Kilburn, Lawlor, Lucas, Male, Miller, Moorhead, Mulherin, Nelson-Carr, Nolan, O'Brien, O'Neill, Palaszczuk, Pitt, Reeves, Roberts, Robertson, Ryan, Schwarten, Scott, Shine, Smith, Spence, Stone, Struthers, Sullivan, van Litsenburg, Wallace, Watt, Wellington, Wells, Wendt, Wettenhall, Wilson. Tellers: Keech, Kiernan

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Resolved in the affirmative.