




Speech By  
**Hon. Jarrod Bleijie**

**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

---

Record of Proceedings, 19 March 2014

**CRIME AND MISCONDUCT AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL:  
REPORTING DATE MOTION**

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (4.10 pm): The motion that I moved says that the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee will consider this bill and report to the House by 30 April. As the honourable Leader of the House has pointed out, 30 April is some 42 days away. We believe that six weeks is sufficient. The reason I believe that is that this issue did not spring up on us this week. We set up the Callinan-Aroney inquiry who—guess what?—called for public submissions in relation to the CMC. So we had the Callinan-Aroney inquiry and then the PCMC of this parliament also had a public inquiry in relation to issues and also made recommendations with respect to the CMC. Then we had the former Australian Federal Police Commissioner, Mick Keelty, conduct an inquiry—

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** I rise to a point of order. Mr Deputy Speaker, he is not speaking to the motion. He is now talking about the bill and the history of how the bill came to be.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Dr Robinson): Order! I simply remind the Attorney-General to stick to the motion.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you. There has been sufficient time for the community to have a say on this important matter. As I indicated, in relation to the six weeks given to the parliamentary committee—and obviously those opposite were not listening during the first reading—I said that we are encouraging people to come to the committee and have a say. We have been receiving submissions on these sorts of things for over two years. I have full confidence in the chair of the parliamentary committee, Mr Ian Berry, to be able to deal with these matters within a six-week time frame. These are important matters. People have made submissions. The feedback that we received from submissions over the past two years have formulated what we have in the House today; hence why we think six weeks. As a matter of fact, we have talked about flip-flopping from the opposition leader—

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** Mr Deputy Speaker, he is not referring to the motion and I would ask him to speak to the motion.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I am responding to the Leader of the Opposition—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! The Leader of the Opposition will resume her seat. I am listening carefully to the Attorney-General. The Attorney-General has the call.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Mr Deputy Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition knows what I going to say. That is why she does not want to hear it. I refer to an article titled 'Qld Government puts off CMC changes until next year', which states—

Opposition Leader Anastacia Palaszczuk has questioned the delay.

'The Government is dragging its feet,' she said.

Then the opposition leader said—

'That came down in April—it was so urgent that they're postponing it until next year.'

I table a copy of those comments by the Leader of the Opposition.

*Tabled paper:* Email, dated 13 November 2013, from Jodi Staunton-Smith, incorporating ABC online article titled, 'Qld Government puts off CMC changes until next year' [4691].

So on the one hand we are dragging our feet—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Madam SPEAKER:** Order! Those on my left will cease interjecting. The Attorney-General is speaking to the issue of timing and it is relevant to the motion.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you. When these issues were debated about a year ago, the opposition said that the LNP was going to trash the CMC. Then we had all of these reviews. The opposition leader then comes out and says that because we have delayed the bill we are now dragging our feet. We introduce a bill and we put a six-week time line on it.

I want to correct a factually incorrect statement made by those members opposite. They are saying that this is an urgent motion. It is not an urgent motion pursuant to the standing orders. Every bill—

**Ms Palaszczuk:** Then give it more time.

**Madam SPEAKER:** Order! Those on my left will cease interjecting. The Attorney-General has the call.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Most bills that go to a committee have a time frame on them for the proper order and proper administration of the House and the other bills before the House. On most occasions, that is the case. There is a time put on the consideration so that guidance is given to the committee in terms of its other matters. We have taken into consideration the other matters that the committee has before it. That is why we have chosen the six weeks—because we think that is an appropriate time.

The opposition leader, the member for Bundamba and the member for South Brisbane are saying that they are going to oppose this urgency motion. Maybe they can oppose a motion on a different day of the week, because this motion that we are debating is not an urgency motion. This motion puts an extensive six-week time period on an inquiry into a bill before the House. In relation to the committee process under the Labor government, I reckon a lot of the committees that the minister and I served on would have given anything to have six weeks to consider some of the bills that we had before us.

**Mr Langbroek:** There was no committee system.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** I take the interjection. Up until the dying days of the former government, there was no committee system. Time after time the former government would move motions to guillotine after moving motions of urgency. This motion is not an urgency motion. This just puts a six-week time line on it.

**Mr Langbroek:** When they merged the CJC and the Crime Commission into the CMC, there was no committee system at that time.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Absolutely. I take the interjection from the honourable education minister. When the former government merged the CJC and the Crime Commission, there was no committee system. It was just done.

Of course, we know that the member for South Brisbane all but on a daily basis quotes Fitzgerald in this House—plays scary music, the bad days before Fitzgerald. The opposition, when in government, split the CMC. That was in direct contrast to what Fitzgerald recommended. So if the member for South Brisbane is going to come in here and quote Fitzgerald I suggest that she get it out and read it again, because she is obviously misquoting Fitzgerald and does not understand Fitzgerald.

This motion provides a six-week consultation period. I was very open in my introductory speech when I introduced the bill into the House. We are calling on Queenslanders, we are calling on academics, we are calling on the commentariat to come in and have a say—tell us if we have it right, tell us if we have not, tell us what they think about it. We believe that six weeks is sufficient time for that to occur.