



Speech By  
**Mark Ryan**

**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 November 2015

**MOTION**

**Organised Crime Commission of Inquiry**



**Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (6.28 pm): I oppose the motion. It is a pleasure to speak—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr RYAN:** Just wait and listen. The member for Kawana was saying that he laughs at the contributions of other members in this place. Well, we laugh because the member for Kawana is the reason we are on this side of the House. We enjoy that. It is a real pleasure to support the Attorney-General and the police minister in this debate—

**Mr Bleijie:** Where have you been for three years?

**Mr RYAN:** Holding you to account—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock.

**Mr RYAN:**—for all those lawyers around Brisbane that could not stand you at all.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Kawana, you had a good go. I would ask you to listen to the member for Morayfield in silence unless you are provoked.

**Mr RYAN:** Thank you, Mr Speaker, because what I have to say is pretty important and they might just learn something if they listen. I wanted to touch on two things that we have seen in the opposition's contributions tonight, and the first is a selective, cheap and politicised reading of not only Commissioner Byrne's report but also the terms of reference and the act itself—the Commissions of Inquiry Act. If we turn to the motion, points 3 and 4 of the motion say that none of the information is publicly available and calls for information that the commission or crown law deems is not confidential. There is a 600-page report. There is a 600-page report that refers to all of the matters that—

**An opposition member:** Have you read it?

**Mr RYAN:** I have read the majority of it, and it is a good read in fact. It is a good read, because it touches on those critical issues which our state faces in respect of organised crime. I certainly bet those opposite have not read it, because if they had read it they would not have moved this motion in the House. There is 600 pages of information that has been thoroughly considered by the commission and presented to the people of Queensland as a road map for addressing the challenge of organised crime in this state. If those opposite had also not had a select—

*(Time expired)*

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr RYAN:** No. I am happy to start again, Mr Speaker.

**Mr SPEAKER:** No, I think we have all had enough. The question is that the motion—

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** I rise to a point of order, Mr Speaker. That was clearly not five minutes. There was some error.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The advice I have received is that under the standing orders it is a maximum 30-minute debate. I will seek further advice from the Clerk. Members, I will allow the member to continue.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Members, there have been a lot of interjections. How much time have you got left?

**Mr RYAN:** Five pages, Mr Speaker.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** No. Member for Morayfield, I am informed you had two minutes on the clock. You have two minutes left and then we will proceed to a vote.

**Mr RYAN:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Please do not provoke the opposition.

**Mr RYAN:** In the two minutes remaining I want to touch on two other little things. The first one is the selective reading of—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr RYAN:** No, this is still the same point, Mr Speaker. I refer to the selective reading of the act, because not only does section 9 of the act say that it could be a contempt—and of course this motion tries to persuade the Premier to commit a contempt—but section 16A—

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** I rise to a point of order, Mr Speaker. I ask that you please put the member out of his misery. He obviously has nothing to say—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Kawana, you have had a pretty good go today. I have made a ruling. The member has time left on the clock and then we will proceed to a vote. I would ask the member for Morayfield not to provoke the opposition.

**Mr RYAN:** Mr Speaker, we see the cheap political attacks continue. We have also seen throughout this debate the cheap political attacks on the independent commissioner—the independent commissioner, Mr Michael Byrne—and I am sick of it. I am sick of hearing the attacks on Mr Byrne—the political attacks. Mr Byrne is one of Queensland's most respected legal minds. He is a barrister of high standing, he is a Queen's Counsel and he is well qualified to be the commissioner in respect of this inquiry. As a lawyer myself, I am keenly aware of the damage that those opposite wrought on our legal system during their three-year reign. Everywhere I turned during the last three years when I spoke to legal practitioners around Brisbane they were sick of how the LNP treated the legal profession and our justice system, and I see those attacks continue tonight in this debate. I am sick and tired of the opposition attacking the independence of the commissioner, Mr Byrne's good name. If those opposite have any evidence at all that Mr Byrne was not independent and that the commission did not conduct its work independently, then they should produce it; otherwise they should accept his recommendations as an independent report and work together with the government to tackle organised crime in Queensland.