




Speech By
Shane Knuth

MEMBER FOR DALRYMPLE

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**CONSTITUTION (FIXED TERM PARLIAMENT) AMENDMENT BILL;
CONSTITUTION (FIXED TERM PARLIAMENT) REFERENDUM BILL**

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (12.25 pm): The KAP will not be supporting four-year fixed terms and the referendum to be held in March. We do acknowledge the gesture. We do acknowledge the fact that there is a cost factor and also that it would secure business confidence. I really do not have faith in big government, particularly when it comes to the asset sales that we saw under the Bligh government and the arrogance that we have seen. I do not think that Queenslanders could have gone through another year like that last year of the Bligh government—it was toxic. We saw massive seats lost in a massive landslide against that government. I would not like to be promoting four-year terms when it comes to that Bligh era.

Also, I do not think that we could have put up with another year of the Newman government declaring war on everyone and smashing through legislation. We might say that we have faith in the committee system, but I do not even have faith in the committee system. I do have to say that in a hung parliament things are a little more balanced, but I do have grave concerns for when we do have a majority government. We do not have an upper house to be able to scrutinise legislation like every other state right across Australia. I think this is a very important factor.

My constituents have grave concerns. They do not trust government, particularly big government—a big majority government. In regard to the committee system, yes, there has to be a little bit more work done on the committee system, but I believe that it plays second fiddle with regard to having an upper house. We will not be supporting this bill.