



Speech By  
**Jarrold Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 October 2018

**MOTION**

**Business Program**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.18 am): If the Leader of the House's wishful thinking is that I am going to support the guillotining, the slamming of democracy and not allowing members to speak in this parliament—she says she is living in hope—she will be waiting quite some time because I am never—

**Mrs D'Ath:** I am patient.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** The Leader of the House may be patient, but I am not and I am telling the Leader of the House: I will never, ever agree to this Business Committee motion when it stops members from fully participating in democracy because it stops members raising issues on behalf of their constituents.

We welcome people into the public galleries each sitting. We welcome the schoolchildren. Little do they know that in years gone by and in recent history not that long ago the House used to sit a lot longer and we used to be able to raise their issues on the floor of this chamber, but that is forever corroding under this lazy Labor government because it does not like members speaking in this House because those opposite do not like what they hear. They do not like the fact that the shadow Treasurer talks about every economic report under the sun, yet those opposite find this one magical report by Deloittes which says that it is all going to come good in the future. That is why the Deputy Premier wants to talk about the future, not every economic report. We do not have time to debate all of these issues this week. We do not have time to debate all of those economic reports because they guillotine our debate.

We also do not know yet when the parliament is sitting next year. We have no idea when we are sitting. The government has not released the sitting calendar for next year. I am not sure whether Labor members are getting invitations to school events. We on this side of the House are. We cannot say yes to any of these things because we do not know when we are sitting next year. We actually do not know if we are sitting in December this year. Those opposite cannot work out whether we will be here in December, let alone if we will be here in January or February next year. If the delay for decisions about all of these things was caused by the mammoth hours we are putting in to this place—the big, long debates until three o'clock in the morning—I would understand why those opposite could not make the decisions, but we are not. We are not even here for the whole Dolly Parton song *9 to 5*. They are not even working that long. The reality is they have plenty of time to determine what the calendar will be for next year.

If we had the opportunity this week—if we had three-minute speeches before question time, if we had more committee debates like we used to under the hung parliament and if we debated a motion every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from five to six o'clock—we would also talk about other issues. This morning I noted the Minister for Tourism going on about women in politics. We want to talk about Lady Cilento's name being ripped off the hospital. Those opposite will not. Those opposite will not want to talk about the news coming out of Canberra today where Labor has got rid of Lyndal Howison, the candidate for Bennelong. Guess what? It replaced her with a bloke!

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Stewart): Order! Members, I understand lively debate, but I could not get your attention despite yelling into the microphone.

**Mrs D'ATH:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. This is the Business Committee motion about the setting down of hours for the bills.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Attorney, is it about relevance?

**Mrs D'ATH:** It is about relevance. The member has strayed.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, Attorney-General. Member for Kawana, I counsel you to come back to the motion.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. As the Leader of the House will know, in the Business Committee motion we talk about all sorts of topics associated with what we want to talk about this week given the opportunity. When the government guillotines and stops the debate time, this motion is about what I want to get on the agenda this week, but we cannot because we are not afforded the opportunity because of the constant guillotines.

I want to talk about the fact that Labor just got rid of a woman candidate today and the fact that the woman Labor candidate—guess what she said, member for Caloundra—said, 'I'm making way for a better candidate,' who is a bloke! Can members believe it? Preselections by merit? God forbid! Not in the Labor Party, surely! I understand why those opposite do not want to talk about those issues. They do not want to talk about Jan McLucas, the former female senator who was duded out of the job by the Labor Party. They do not want to talk about her, do they?

**Opposition members:** Emma Husar!

**Mr BLEIJIE:** They do not want to talk about Emma Husar.

**Opposition members:** Margaret Strelow!

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Margaret Strelow, the Mayor of Rocky! What happened to Margaret? She should have been in this place, but look who we have up the back.

*(Time expired)*