



Speech By Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 17 May 2018

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COUNCILLOR COMPLAINTS) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL (IMPLEMENTING STAGE 1 OF BELCARRA) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Allocation of Time Limit Order

Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (12.09 pm): At the time it was moved, the motion by the Leader of the House provided ample time for the further consideration of the bills before the House that are very important to many people across this state. There is great expectation about the conclusion of deliberation on those bills and the opportunities that then provides for the government and the community. I will not canvass any of those, but I reiterate that there are high expectations in the community that this matter is dealt with.

It is not unusual to see the parliament as a whole making decisions to deal with matters in a timely way. The assertion that it is the absolutely unmitigated right of every single member to speak on every single matter at any time they wish is unfounded. There is always the ability—

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I withdraw all of the good things I said earlier about the member for Sandgate.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Kawana, that is a frivolous point of order. You should know better than that. You are also already on a warning. I ask you to leave the chamber for 10 minutes.

Where upon the honourable member for Kawana withdrew from the chamber at 12.11 pm.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: That is the best provocation I have ever done!

Mr SPEAKER: I do not need any commentary from you, Minister.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: It has always been the case that the parliament has to make decisions about the management of itself. How it manages its business is always a matter for the parliament. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition spoke of his great admiration and regard for the Westminster system and remarked that this is a Westminster parliament that draws on those fine traditions of the houses of parliament at Westminster. This action, which seeks to manage the timing of debate, is a common practice in Westminster, not to mention in the other Australian jurisdictions taking that form.

The reality is that our sessional orders very much draw on how things work in the Victorian state parliament. That includes a requirement for business management. That is something the member for Mermaid Beach is very aware of. That is something the member for Surfers Paradise, who travelled to Victoria with me when I was leader of the House, is very aware of. These are the best ways to manage our business as a House.

It is an utter pretence for members opposite to say that this motion before the House is not proper. The carry-on we have seen, which actually reduces the available time to deal with the matter at hand, demonstrates that those opposite are not genuinely seeking outcomes and considering the matters before the House. It is all a pretence to undermine the government's, and therefore the people's, agenda. In accordance with standing order 88, I move—

That the question be now put.