




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 4 September 2018

MOTION

Business Program

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.43 am), by leave, without notice: In accordance with sessional order 2B, and notwithstanding anything in the standing orders, I move—

1. That the following government bills will be considered this sitting week, with the nominated maximum periods of time for each bill specified:
 - (a) the Plumbing and Drainage Bill, a maximum of four hours to complete all stages;
 - (b) the Heavy Vehicle National Law Amendment Bill a maximum of three hours to complete all stages; and
 - (c) the Disability Services and Other Legislation (Worker Screening) Amendment Bill, a maximum of three hours to complete all stages.
2. If the nominated stage of each bill has not been completed by the allocated time specified or by 5.55 pm on Thursday, 6 September 2018, Mr Speaker:
 - (a) shall put all remaining questions necessary to either pass that stage or pass the bill without further debate;
 - (b) may interrupt non-specified business or debate on a bill to complete the requirements of the motion; and
 - (c) will complete all stages required by this motion notwithstanding anything contained in standing and sessional orders.

In moving the inaugural business program motion in this chamber, without anticipating debate I would like to make some brief comments in relation to the bills that will be considered this week and the overall work that will be undertaken by the House this week. As I outlined last parliament in the debate establishing the Business Committee—

No matter how popular any individual or government of the day might be, the perception of politicians out there generally is very cynical. We can blame society. We can blame the media. We can blame a whole lot of things for that cynicism. The reality is that ultimately it starts with us and our behaviour and the way we conduct ourselves.

The people of Queensland want to see us in here working constructively and in the best interests of all Queenslanders. That does not mean that we have to agree on everything every time. Indeed, the best public policy outcomes for Queenslanders occur when there is debate and opinions from multiple sides put forward. This chamber is a chamber of debate and ideas. It is also a chamber that needs to set the tone and set an example of how we should behave. The present will soon be the past, and we all have a collective responsibility to ensure that the legacy of the 56th Parliament is a positive one and not one of obstruction and frustration. It is incumbent on us all to respect the traditions and practices of this House but also be willing to adapt and evolve to meet community expectations. This new Business Committee model seeks to go some way to achieve this.

The Business Committee met for the first time last night to consider the allocation of time for government bills for this week's sitting. I would like to acknowledge the Manager of Opposition Business and the member for Noosa, who attended on behalf of the crossbench members, and the Minister for

Health and Ambulance Services, who attended on behalf of the Premier and Minister for Trade, for attending the meeting last night. In any comments I make, I make it clear that that does mean there is a consent position on any of this.

Pursuant to sessional order 2A(2), the role of the Business Committee is to aim to agree as to how the House will deal with government business. In doing so, the Business Committee took into consideration a number of factors including, but not limited to: the recommendations provided by the parliamentary committee process, a committee process that allows for the detailed scrutiny by not only members of this House but also members of the public; statements of reservation and any opposing ideas; and any amendments that may be moved during consideration in detail of the debate. Additionally, other business that is conducted in this chamber was taken into consideration when allocating the overall time available for the debate and consideration of government bills.

As honourable members would know, this chamber has already considered a motion of condolence this morning for the late Nev Warburton. At the conclusion of this motion the government will introduce legislation, and later today the House will consider the LNP member for Burdekin's disallowance motion. On Thursday the House will consider a number of committee reports on important matters that are being considered by our parliamentary committees in addition to the motion that will be moved by the Premier to fill, at the will of the House, the Senate vacancy created by the resignation of the former Greens senator, Mr Bartlett. This is all in addition to the usual matters that this House considers during each sitting week, that being: question time; matters of public interest and private members' statements—which provide an opportunity for members, in particular backbenchers, to put important matters on the record—adjournment statements and private member's motions. This means that 7½ hours of important non-government time each week is debated as well as important time allotted for government debates.

With this in mind, the motion before us today allocates: four hours for the Plumbing and Drainage Bill; three hours for the Heavy Vehicle National Law Amendment Bill; and three hours for the Disability Services and Other Legislation (Worker Screening) Amendment Bill. I understand that Minister de Brenni has offered briefings and provided a briefing to the opposition on the plumbing bill. I outline these factors to the House and ask for the support of the House in this motion.

(Time expired)