




Speech By
David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

Record of Proceedings, 30 April 2019

MOTION

Business Program

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (11.25 am): It gives me no pleasure to rise to oppose this motion this morning. There is something vaguely familiar about this debate. It is going to stay familiar, because on this side of the House we want to hear the voices of Queensland in this parliament. Again and again we have seen debate curtailed. We have seen speakers sat down. We have seen a lack of appropriate scrutiny of government legislation. When I look at the business program motion today I see there are a few bills: the education bill, an hour and 30 minutes; the child killer bill, six hours and 30 minutes—which I will return to shortly—and then the health and wellbeing bill, to be completed during the week. Sometimes it is not so much what is up for debate but what is missing. What is not up for debate this week?

Last sitting week there were three bills on the agenda: an economic development bill, a health bill and a QCAT bill. Again the government was busy curtailing debate in relation to these three bills and, funnily enough, we ran out of time. There was only a couple of hours—two, 2½ hours, three hours—for debate on each of these three bills. About midweek I think the Leader of the House realised, 'We're not going to have enough to debate this week,' so it was flagged that the blue card bill would be up for debate. We had proposed amendments in the public arena. It had been on the agenda for some time. There had been some scrutiny of these amendments. There had been a briefing. At the eleventh hour—not even at the eleventh hour—at the eleventh hour and 59th minute the government decided to pull debate on the blue card bill.

That should send a shiver down the spine of every Queensland parent because there are loopholes in the blue card bill that you could drive a proverbial truck through. You could drive a proverbial truck through some of the loopholes—

Mrs D'ATH: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member is now anticipating the debate and we ask that he stick to the business motion.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Member for Toowoomba South, I counsel you that you are heading down that path. You will have plenty of time during the debate, but I ask you not to pre-empt the debate.

Mr JANETZKI: It is not so much that the debate was not conducted in relation to that bill last week, but with hundreds of lawyers and thousands of bureaucrats why isn't the bill being debated this week? What has occurred in the last three weeks that has seen this bill completely disappear when children's safety is at risk? What has happened? What have the Attorney-General and the Leader of the House been doing for the last three weeks? Why is the bill not on the agenda this week?

I want to turn back now to a bill under consideration this week, and that is the child killer bill. I acknowledge that the Attorney-General has agreed to cognate these debates, and we appreciate that, but as shadow Attorney-General I have concerns about the 6½ hours assigned for this debate.

In the gallery are the parents of Hemi Goodwin-Burke, Shane and Kerri-Ann. I have had the great privilege of meeting with many families and victims of crime around Queensland. They have lost their precious loved ones, who were subjected to crime of a most horrendous nature. The personal stories of these individuals would fill up 6½ hours on their own.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Member for Toowoomba South, I think you are again heading down the road of debating the bill before it has been brought to the House for its second reading debate. I ask you to come back to the motion. The next time I interrupt, I will ask you to resume your seat.

Mr JANETZKI: Six and a half hours for the cognate debate of the child killer bills does not even touch the sides of the pain and suffering that so many families throughout Queensland have felt in relation to these matters. I personally will speak in the debate about their pain and suffering. Their stories need to be told.

Mr Bleijie: We need more time.

Mr JANETZKI: I take that interjection from the Manager of Opposition Business: we need more time. Six and a half hours does not cut it. The stories of these families and these victims of crime deserve to be told. We on this side of the House are determined to tell them. We do not want to be curtailed by an arbitrary time limit of 6½ hours. That seeks to silence the voices of Queenslanders who have lost everything—their precious children, their loved ones. This Labor government continues to shut down the voices of Queenslanders. We on this side of the House will not stand for it.

(Time expired)