




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 26 February 2019

MOTION

Business Program

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.23 am): The fact is that the business motion that we are debating today has not worked for the House. It has not worked for democracy in the state of Queensland. As I always say, the Leader of the House gets up and talks about the niceties of the business committee meeting. She says that if we work together and cut our speeches short we can all speak in the House. That might be okay for the Labor Party where they can get up and speak for 30 seconds—

Mr Mander: That is all they can speak for.

Mr BLEIJIE: That is all they can speak for, but I think Queenslanders would get much more out of listening to the LNP speak for 30 seconds than Labor members speaking for 30 seconds. The reality is that there is not much one can say in 30 seconds. I have been in this place now for 10 years. The members for Clayfield, Currumbin, Caloundra, Surfers Paradise and Maroochydore have all been here longer. They would know that over the years there may be a speaking list but at some stage during the debate things may happen or things may be said and people may want to respond to them. Members may think they do not have a particular interest in speaking to a bill, but something occurs during the debate that they do want to speak on and they will then add themselves to the list. The reality is that that is being denied because of the constant guillotining.

I have here an A5 page of Liberal National Party speakers who did not get a chance to speak on the waste reduction bill at the last sitting. They were on the speaking list. Every week I will table the speaking lists to show that members who are on the list are not afforded the opportunity to speak. I table this document.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, annotated speaking list for Waste Reduction Bill second reading debate [244](#).

We are paid to come to parliament and speak on behalf of our constituents. With the Labor Party in government parliament is turning into a nine-to-five job where we cannot do after hours. The government talks about efficiencies. We have seen library research briefs where week after week debates are guillotined, motions are cut off and members are not afforded the opportunity to speak. In fact, last week the member for Broadwater was talking on a guillotine motion and he was guillotined while talking of a guillotine! I do not know what the prospects of success are for someone having been guillotined once already guillotined, but he was sat down. That is the reality of it.

The Leader of the House talks about the freedoms we have in the Human Rights Bill. If you are a parliamentarian you do not have the right to speak if you want. That is the reality of it. Everyone has free speech unless you are a parliamentarian and then the Labor Party will cut you off. It is because the government is arrogant. It uses its majority. It does not want to hear what other people have to say. It does not want to hear the LNP ask questions of the Premier about her good mate Dave Hanna, who is now sitting in one of their overcrowded jails for a rape conviction. If we had asked does she recall getting

a selfie with him she would have stood up and denied ever knowing the fellow, despite receiving CFMMEU donations. In question time today the member for Gympie asked a question about the minister for agriculture's comments on the Steve Austin program last week. I heard him say three times how bad it was that the dairy farmers are getting a better go and getting more money, yet the Premier stands here knowing nothing about it. How does someone not have a clue what is happening in her own government?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Order! Pause the clock. Member for Kawana, I bring you back to the debate.

Mr BLEIJIE: We are debating the time limits and what we want to be afforded the opportunity to talk about. This is the stuff the LNP want to talk about that we are not afforded the opportunity to talk about because the Leader of the House is guillotining these discussions and guillotining the debates. I have always held the view, and one only has to look at historical records of *Hansard*, that I am quite happy to have members stay here until four o'clock in the morning. The member for Clayfield had us here until 4 am with his budget in 2012. The LNP are happy to be here all hours of the morning. Look how happy the member for Clayfield is! He remembers the days of the 2 am and 4 am finish. That is what we get paid for. We want to do the best job we can for Queensland. This government is arrogant in guillotining our debates.