




Speech By  
**Jarrold Bleijie**

**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 3 April 2019

## **HEALTH AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (2.47 pm): I move—

That the words 'now read a second time' be deleted and the following words inserted:

'withdrawn and redrafted to remove the provisions in Part 9 concerning retirement villages and freehold title and which relate to the portfolio of the Minister for Housing and Public Works, Minister for Digital Technology and Minister for Sport and should therefore be contained in a separate Bill.'

The opposition is moving this particular reasoned amendment during the debate because the minister responsible for retirement villages did not appropriately deal with this issue when the parliament dealt with retirement villages and freehold title in the past, so we are coming to this chamber to correct his errors and his incompetence. It is therefore entirely relevant and appropriate that those particular provisions be contained in a separate bill with a separate committee procedure and a separate debate in the parliament. The member for Mudgeeraba, the shadow minister, will detail the opposition's support for many of the amendments to the health provisions of the bill. The honourable member for Burleigh will express our concerns with respect to part 9, which deals with the retirement village provisions.

It is a health bill, not a retirement village freehold bill. That is why it is important that we discuss and debate the health provisions of the bill—particularly because we had a health crisis last week—but going forward the retirement village provisions should be dealt with separately. This House should not accommodate the incompetence of the Minister for Digital Technology and Minister for Housing and Public Works.

We see the drama unfolding across the chamber now. They are wondering 'What on earth is going on?' What is going on is that the minister ought to do the right thing by the people of Queensland and have a proper debate about a very important matter.

There has been public commentary on the provisions of part 9 of the Retirement Villages Act which will not be dealt with satisfactorily in a 2½-hour debate when we should be debating the health provisions of the bill because that is what it is about.

The other point I make and the reason for moving the amendment, which will be voted on at the end of the second reading debate, is that I have no doubt that the time will be wound down in this 2½-hour debate and there will be no consideration in detail. There will be no opportunity to express a view and vote against the provisions amending the Retirement Villages Act. Opposition and crossbench members should be afforded the right to do that, but they will not be. That is why I move this very reasoned and important amendment. I encourage all honourable members to think about this over the next 2½ hours and, when it comes time to vote, finally agree that the provisions relating to retirement villages, important though they are, should be dealt with in a bill separate entirely from the important matters contained in the health bill we are debating now.