




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MOTION

Business Program

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.18 am): The Leader of the House is correct; we will end the year with valedictories later this week. We will also end the year with the highest unemployment rate in the country. We will end the year with the Deputy Premier still engulfed in an integrity crisis. We will end the year with other health crises. We will end the year, but not on the positive notes that the Leader of the House outlines. We will end the year on the negative notes that the Labor government is overseeing in the state of Queensland.

Just before the Leader of the House sat down, the opposition was provided with the motion we are debating. I have not even had a chance to look at the motion we are debating because we got it literally five seconds before the Leader of the House sat down. I assume that the motion is relevant to the discussions held yesterday at the Business Committee meeting. In the Business Committee meeting the Leader of the House again tried to convince me that, to save an hour, we ought not debate committee reports this week. I rejected that at the Business Committee meeting because I think committee reports are important to debate. It is only because of our strong opposition to the proposal that committee reports will still be debated this week. With the Labor government thinking the parliament is its political plaything, committee reports would not have been debated this week.

Mr Hinchliffe: So the process worked.

Mr BLEIJIE: The process is not working. All it does—

Mr Hinchliffe interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I will explain to the former leader of the House why it does not work. Yesterday I received a text message from the Leader of the House telling me what bills would be debated this week. I thank the Leader of the House for sending the message. The text message I received said, 'These are the bills to be debated this week.' Then at the Business Committee meeting the Leader of the House said, 'These are the bills we will debate this week. What time lines?' There is no discussion about what we ought to debate this week; it is simply a case of what the government wants the government gets. The Business Committee meeting is a complete waste of time. There is only one thing—

Mr Hinchliffe interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Order! Member for Sandgate, you have had a couple of goes. You are now warned.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection. Just because the New Zealand parliament has a silly Business Committee meeting does not mean that we need a silly Business Committee meeting as well. Just because it is done in another jurisdiction does not mean it should be done here in Queensland.

The worst thing about wasting my time at the Business Committee meeting every Monday afternoon is sitting there with the Minister for Health, who is a representative on the Business Committee. As I have said for two years, this Business Committee meeting is a waste of time and

achieves nothing. It is a waste of time for everybody who participates in the meeting. I know that the Leader of the House looks forward to the meeting with me every Monday at 5.45, but I do not because I think it is a waste of time. We could be doing far better for our constituents than wasting our time with the health minister.

The reality is that what the government wants the government gets. The parliament is the political plaything of the Labor Party. That is what we expect from the arrogance of a Premier, who always has her head in the sand in relation to integrity issues. She is the weakest premier in Queensland's history. We are expected just to go along with it and allow parliament to be Labor's political plaything. We will not do it.

I table a copy of the speaking list for the summary offences bill debated last sitting week.

Tabled paper. Document, undated, speaking list titled 'Summary Offences Bill' [2115](#).

Seven members missed the opportunity to speak in that debate. The member for Sandgate says, 'It's all working well.' If you are the government it is all working well, because what they want is what they get. They do not care what the members of the opposition or the crossbenchers say.

We want to debate matters this week. Where is the integrity bill? Where is the bill concerning the Deputy Premier that the LNP introduced? Why are we not debating that this week? The front page of the *Courier-Mail* says that ministers could be in jail. Yes, they could. The Deputy Premier could be in jail for what she did. Why are we not debating this week the bill the opposition introduced? We will not debate those bills until next year. What an absolute waste of time this is. It shows the arrogance of the Labor Party. The only way we will get change is to vote in an LNP government next year. I look forward to that day.

(Time expired)