




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 15 October 2019

MOTION

Business Program

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (11.32 am): The parliamentary business motion moved by the Leader of the House today is pretty straightforward. The discussion at the Business Committee meeting last night was pretty straightforward. The Manager of Opposition Business was consulted in the Business Committee meeting and he indicated that the opposition was most interested in the cognate debate of the Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and the Electoral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill.

In consideration of that, the Leader of the House has proposed that the bulk of our time this week be spent debating those bills whilst still reserving three hours to allow debate of the Police Service Administration (Discipline Reform) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill which contains very important reforms and which I understand members on both sides of the House have worked on and has been the subject of very significant contribution from the Queensland Police Service and the CCC. As the Leader of the House has outlined, in order to allow the local government minister to attend what is a very important stakeholder conference, the LGAQ conference, the government intends to debate the police bill first and before the minister returns to lead the debate on the local government electoral bills.

I turn to the points raised by the member of Kawana. I appreciate his concern about the best use of my time. I am quite happy to continue to catch up with him every sitting Monday afternoon. I think the parliamentary Business Committee meetings are important. I will continue to treat them as though they are important.

The member for Kawana listed how many speakers were supposedly gagged last sitting week—seven on one bill and three on another or something like that. Do members know who the only person who moved a gag motion last week was? The only person who moved that the motion be put so that a minister could be gagged and could no longer speak was the member for Kawana.

It is the height of hypocrisy for the member for Kawana to walk in here on a Tuesday accusing the government of gagging debate when the only person who tried but failed to gag a debate last sitting was the member for Kawana himself. That goes directly to the hypocrisy of those opposite. They consistently gagged debate when they had the numbers in this House. Last sitting they tried but failed to move a gag motion. There are no saints over there when it comes to attempting to manipulate and control the timing of discussions.

On this side of the House we will continue to manage the time of the House so that significant debates occur and so that bills that matter to the community can be passed. I make no apologies for that. I urge all members to support the motion that has been moved.