



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 May 2019

**MOTION**

**Business Program**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11.28 am): I rise to speak on this motion and in support of the amendments put forward by the Manager of Opposition Business. We will consistently get up parliamentary sitting after parliamentary sitting to talk about the democratic process that is being jeopardised by the guillotining and the programming that takes place each week. We have two important bills to speak about this week. We have the Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and we have the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. This bill I have here is the Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill—

**Ms Leahy** interjected.

**Mr MANDER**: I will take that interjection from the member for Warrego. It has 230 pages that will affect 29 acts. Here we have the explanatory notes—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Stewart): Pause the clock. Member for Everton, I am pre-empting what you are going to say but I will just give you a warning to not pre-empt debate today.

**Mr MANDER**: No, I will not at all. The explanatory notes have 125 pages. The point that I am making is that this is a substantial bill. This is a bill that requires substantial examination—

**Dr Rowan**: Scrutiny.

**Mr MANDER**: I will take that interjection from the member for Moggill—and scrutiny but, no, we are going to be limited to four hours when we need to really get into this bill and ask questions. I doubt very much that the minister, with all due respect, could possibly have his mind around every aspect of this bill. In fact, I think it was this morning that he called the shadow minister in to talk about more amendments to this bill already. He did not leave the amendments with the shadow minister so we could examine them beforehand. No, we will hear about them for the first time when they come into the House. Again, our scrutiny and our examination of this bill—our ability as local members to ask questions about this bill—will be limited. That is simply not good enough.

The other bill is the working with children bill. It is an incredibly important bill about protecting our children. It is a bill that should have been discussed a couple of sittings ago, but the shadow Attorney-General put forward some very well-thought-out amendments which the Attorney-General took away to examine because she did not think about these things in the first place. These are incredibly important issues about definitions and making sure that—

**Mr Janetzki** interjected.

**Mr MANDER**: I will take that interjection from the shadow Attorney-General. They are about disqualifying offences, making sure that we capture everybody who should not be working with children. Again, in our opinion we are not getting enough time to examine that bill, and that simply is not good enough.

As the Manager of Opposition Business said, not only do we want to talk about those bills; we also want time to continue to keep this government accountable as it goes through crisis after crisis—whether it is crime out of control, whether it is the overcrowding in prisons, whether it is our youth justice system, whether it is the support of the resources industry where government members sit on the fence depending on whether they are speaking to people in the cafes of South Brisbane or whether they are in Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville or Cairns. These are the questions that we want to ask.

**Mrs Frecklington:** What about the health system?

**Mr MANDER:** Not to mention the health system.

**Mr Minnikin:** What about 'rail fail'?

**Mr MANDER:** And the 'rail fail'. We had the situation today in parliament where the Premier and the Deputy Premier did not say one word in their ministerial statements about the crisis in our watch houses with young people. That shows a total failure of leadership.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I am pre-empting what you are about to say, so I will continue speaking to save you a breath. The other thing we want to know is whether the Premier will bail out of parliament and take the Agent-General's job in London—a job where it is our tip that—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Pause the clock. Member for Everton, you might have thought that you were a mind-reader, but I can guarantee that you are not. I was going to ask you to come back to the motion, please.

**Mr Hinchliffe** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, member for Sandgate. Member for Everton, you now have 21 minutes to come back to—

**Mr MANDER:** Okay, 21 minutes.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Correction, 21 seconds. Member for Everton, you have 21 seconds to actually talk on the motion.

**Mr MANDER:** Thank you. We need the time to keep this government accountable. That is the role of the opposition—

**Mr Watts** interjected.

**Mr MANDER:** I will take that interjection from the member for Toowoomba North. It is a lack of transparency. It is not good enough and Queenslanders are sick of it.