




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 17 September 2019

MOTION

Business Program

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11.29 am): I rise to speak in support of my colleague the Manager of Opposition Business in speaking against this motion. Once again, we see in another sitting how the Labor government treats parliament with contempt—the implications or repercussions of not just limited debating time but also the truncated hours of this parliament, the so-called family-friendly hours. Not only does it limit debate on the issues that we would like to debate—and I will come to those in a moment—it also does not allow us to speak on other issues very relevant to Queenslanders and very topical since the last sitting of parliament. One of the big issues of the last fortnight is the Deputy Premier's plea to be able to fill the void, to give her side of the story.

We are a very tough but very fair opposition. We are an accommodating opposition. We think it only fair that we allow the Deputy Premier to take as much time as she would want to give her side of the story. In fact, at the conclusion of the debate of this motion we will seek leave to move a motion for the House to allow the Deputy Premier, as she so desperately wants, to fill that void. We cannot do that if we have truncated hours and truncated debating times.

Mr Minnikin: It is not fair to the Deputy Premier!

Mr MANDER: I take the interjection from the member for Chatsworth. It is not fair to the member for South Brisbane not to be able to give a full and detailed account of the purchase of the property at Woolloongabba—to fill the void. We want to do what the Deputy Premier has requested and allow time for that to happen.

In the last fortnight the Premier also went overseas for the Olympics bid. For many Queenslanders, it would seem that she abandoned the state in its hour of need. It is important that we get time, again, to talk about the bipartisan attitude that we took with regard to the Olympics bid and about the absolute hypocrisy of this government in praising the federal government for its bipartisan support but not allowing the shadow minister for the Olympics to go on this trip to try to get the Olympics for Queensland. Would it not be important for the Olympics movement to know that a new future government of Queensland supports the Olympics bid?

Another issue we would love to speak about this week, if we had the time, is whether Ron Harding will be the lord mayoral candidate in Brisbane. It was so interesting that before the federal election minister after minister supported then opposition leader Bill Shorten. I want to see minister after minister get up and give their support to Rod Harding. He is friendless. He will not be the Labor mayoral candidate.

Of course, we also want to talk about the great discovery of the dinner bell by the member for Woodridge, the Minister for State Development. The remaining time does not allow me to give that issue the attention it deserves. Members should stay tuned later this afternoon when we talk about that issue in more detail. Once again, we come here today to fight this government's quest to stop us debating

the bill. Seven and a half hours of debate for the reef bill is not enough. It is time for only 40 speeches, and that barely gets the opposition in let alone the whole parliament. The government continues to treat this parliament with contempt.

(Time expired)