



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**


**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

---

Record of Proceedings, 3 September 2019

**MOTION**

**Business Program**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.15 am): In accordance with sessional order 2B, I move—

1. That the following government business will be considered this sitting week, with the nominated maximum periods of time as specified:
  - (a) the Personalised Transport Ombudsman Bill, a maximum of three hours to complete all stages; and
  - (b) the Transport Legislation (Road Safety and Other Matters) Amendment Bill a maximum of five hours to complete all stages.
2. That, for each bill listed in (1)(a) and (b), the minister be called on in reply by 30 minutes before the expiry of the maximum time.
3. If the nominated stage of each bill has not been completed by the allocated time specified in paragraph 2, or by 5:55 pm on Thursday, 5 September 2019, Mr Speaker:
  - (a) shall call upon the minister to table any explanatory notes to government amendments to be put;
  - (b) shall then put all remaining questions necessary to either pass that stage or pass the bill or motion without further debate;
  - (c) may interrupt non-specified business or debate on a bill or motion to complete the requirements of the motion; and
  - (d) will complete all stages required by this motion notwithstanding anything contained in Standing and Sessional Orders.

Today marks a special day. Not only are we here in Townsville for regional parliament; it is 17 years to the day since the first regional parliament was held in this very room—

**Ms Bates:** Deb's birthday!

**Mrs D'ATH:** It is the Leader of the Opposition's birthday as well. Regional parliament provides an opportunity for Queenslanders who ordinarily would not have the opportunity to see their parliament in action to see their House—the people's house—live in action firsthand. I am proud that the Palaszczuk Labor government has continued this fine tradition—it was started under a Labor government and continued under a Labor government—to take the parliament to regional Queensland as it is only Labor that will deliver for all of Queensland.

Turning to the bills that are prescribed in this motion, it should be noted that the Personalised Transport Ombudsman Bill commenced debate, albeit briefly, in Brisbane in the last sitting week and therefore it has been allocated a total time of three hours. The Transport Legislation (Road Safety and Other Matters) Amendment Bill has been allocated five hours. Both bills have time prescribed to allow for the minister—in this case Minister Bailey—to reply to any questions and to move any amendments. Upon the completion of these bills, the House will then move on to the next item on the *Notice Paper*. In addition, there will be the usual matters of public interest, private members' statements, ministerial statements, question time and, of course, the private member's motion.

I am looking forward to some robust but respectful debate during this week's sitting. I am sure that the people of Townsville and surrounding communities who have the opportunity to come to see their House in action will not be disappointed. This business motion is about making sure that we engage in our work in this parliament in an efficient and effective way: to debate and vote on bills; to ensure that the work of this parliament continues; and to ensure that we do not see ongoing filibustering, where the opposition feels the need to put every single member on the speaking list for a bill, being repetitive—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mrs D'ATH:** Those on the other side think they are funny. However, it is our job to represent the people of Queensland. It is our job to represent the people who are here today and not to play games and deliberately delay debate just to make a point and to have stunts.

The statistics have shown us that, despite the rhetoric that we hear from those opposite—and we will hear again today in this business motion debate—more members are speaking now to bills than we have had in quite a considerable period of time over past parliaments. We are having more time for the debating of bills. Those opposite talk about guillotines and they carry on about their rights being impinged. The fact is that the statistics speak for themselves. Members are being heard. Members are getting the opportunity, but it is important that we get on with the business of the day—that is, we get these bills debated, we get them voted on and we get the job done for the people of Queensland. I commend the motion to the House.