



Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 17 September 2019

MOTION

Business Program



Hon. YM D'ATH (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.17 am): 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 Medicines and Poisons Bill and the Therapeutic Goods Bill (cognate debate), a maximum of one hour to complete all stages,
 - (b) the Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, a maximum of seven hours and 30 minutes to complete all stages, and
 - (c) the Heavy Vehicle National Law Amendment Bill, a maximum of two hours and 30 minutes to complete all stages.
2. The following time limits for the bills listed in paragraph 1 apply:
 - (a) the minister to be called on in reply:
 - (i) for the Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 30 minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours; and
 - (ii) for the Heavy Vehicle National Law Amendment Bill 30 minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours;
 - (b) consideration in detail to be completed by three minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours;
 - (c) question on third reading to be put by two minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours; and
 - (d) question on long title to be put by one minute before the expiry of the maximum hours.
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, 19 September 2019, Mr Speaker:
 - (a) shall call on a minister to table any explanatory notes to their circulated amendments;
 - (b) shall 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.

I am glad that I get the opportunity to stand up to speak to this motion because I am certainly never going to get any questions from those on the other side during question time. They claim that there are major integrity issues going on, yet they will not ask me a question about them. That is how seriously they take these issues. They do not want the truth. They do not want all the facts. They are happy to go out and slander people but they will not ask any questions in this place.

I take this opportunity to welcome all members and staff back to Brisbane and thank everybody, particularly the Parliamentary Service, for their tremendous effort in ensuring the Townsville regional parliament ran smoothly. We thank them all. I thank the members of the Business Committee for their constructive contribution to the discussions last night. I certainly will not seek to verbal the member for

Kawana. He adequately continues to represent the opposition in his opposition to the business motions. Of course, I welcome any contribution by the opposition in relation to talking to bills and the length of time they would like to see allocated to these bills.

As members would know, the cognate debate on the Medicines and Poisons Bill and the Therapeutic Goods Bill commenced in Townsville and I have been advised that approximately 1½ hours of debate has already occurred with 11 members having already spoken. That is why these collective bills have been allocated less time than others this week. I have also been advised that the Heavy Vehicle National Law Amendment Bill is technical in nature and aligns Queensland to national standards, similar to previous heavy vehicle bills and, as such, debate on this bill will not be extensive. However, it is important that we pass this bill this week.

The government has listened to the feedback from the crossbench representative the member for Noosa and, indeed, the opposition via the Manager of Opposition Business and has allocated the bulk of the time this week to debate on the Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. I am sure the additional time that has been requested will be put toward constructive and thought-provoking ideas and debate and not just to speeches in which members stand up and read from generic, filibusterous notes. Only time will tell.

To accommodate the additional time allocated for the Great Barrier Reef bill I can advise that there is an agreement between the Manager of Opposition Business and me as Leader of the House to defer the debate on committee reports for this week's sitting. I look forward to the support of the opposition when I move a motion later this sitting to allow this to occur. With those few words, I ask for the support of the members of the House to ensure that we get the business of the parliament done to fulfil our obligations as members of parliament, to debate and to consider these bills and to see these laws come into force in the best interests of the people of Queensland.