



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

**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 October 2019

**MOTION**

**Business Program**



**Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.21 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 Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and the Electoral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, a maximum of six hours and 30 minutes to complete all stages; and
  - (b) the Police Service Administration (Discipline Reform) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, a maximum of three hours to complete all stages.
2. The following time limits for the bills listed in paragraph 1 apply:
  - (a) the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs to be called on in reply for the Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and the Electoral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill cognate debate by 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, 17 October 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.

In moving this motion, I take the opportunity to thank the Manager of Opposition Business and the member for Noosa, who represents the crossbench at the Business Committee meetings, for their attendance at the meeting last night. I also thank the member for Murrumba. As members will see from the motion that has been circulated, we have allocated three hours for the Police Service Administration (Discipline Reform) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Additionally, a total of 6½ hours has been allocated to the cognate debate for the Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, with the minister in reply commencing, at the latest, 30 minutes prior to the conclusion of the overall time. As has already been indicated in this House, the passing of this bill will require a majority vote. Of course, without pre-empting that debate, I do hope that members will support these important reforms in local government and in relation to state electoral reform.

I hope that in the future we will get to a point where we will simply note the bills that we seek to debate for the entire week, without the need to allocate individual times for that. That is what a full business committee model would achieve. For many years it is what has occurred in Victoria, where they operate in a mature way and do not allocate specific times for each bill. They simply say, 'These are the bills that will be debated for the week.' If they have not fully completed all stages by the end of the sitting week, the questions will be put. I had contemplated whether or not we could do that for some of the bills this week, but I fear that we would be at risk of putting bills to a vote without a second reading debate being done. That is what could occur if members put their names down to speak on every single bill, whether or not they have a particular interest in or passion for debating that bill, just to prove a point that they do not like the model. While I hope that we can get to that point, we are not there yet. Consequently, we are allocating time to these bills.

As the member for Kawana pointed out to me this morning, I had indicated to the member for Kawana that we will move onto the police bill after the debate today. Last night I indicated to the Business Committee that the intention was to start today with the local government and electoral legislation. While it is still our intention to debate those bills today and tomorrow, we will start with the police bill because it is important that the Minister for Local Government attend the Queensland local government conference in Cairns this morning, where he will speak directly to the many mayors and councillors who are at that conference. The minister will be returning shortly and will be here to participate in the very important cognate debate. On that basis, I ask members to support this motion, which will see this important legislation debated this week.

If there is still time, it is our intention to progress through the *Notice Paper*. I believe that the next bill on the *Notice Paper* is the workers compensation legislation, which will be debated if we finalise both of those bills and there is additional time remaining in the sitting week. Based on discussions had with the members last night, it was decided not to allocate a fixed time for that bill, but to allocate time for the first two bills, being the local government electoral bill and the police bill, to give adequate time for those debates.