



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

**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 22 October 2019

**MOTION**

**Business Program**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (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 Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, a maximum of 20 minutes to complete all stages;
  - (b) the Civil Liability and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, a maximum of four hours to complete all stages;
  - (c) the Summary Offences and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, a maximum of six hours to complete all stages; and
  - (d) the Motor Accident Insurance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill to complete all stages; and
2. The following time limits for the bills listed in paragraph 1 apply:
  - (a) the minister to be called on to reply:
    - i. for the Civil Liability and Other Legislation Amendment Bill by one hour before the expiry of the maximum hours;
    - ii. for the Summary Offences and Other Legislation Amendment Bill by 45 minutes for 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;
  - (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 paragraph 2, or by 5.55 pm on Thursday, 24 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.

As members will see, there are three bills outlined in the motion before the House. The first has been allocated 20 minutes, the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, as the second reading debate occurred during the last sitting and the remaining time will be dedicated to consideration in detail, which also commenced in the last sitting.

Four hours has been allocated to the Civil Liability and Other Legislation Amendment Bill—a bill that is resuming debate with 41 minutes of the second reading already occurring. One hour has been allocated to allow the minister to reply and for consideration, including amendments to the bill, to be debated.

Finally, six hours has been allocated to the Summary Offences and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Consideration in detail time has been factored into these last two bills to ensure that adequate scrutiny occurs.

In relation to the Summary Offences and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, members would know that the bill was introduced on 19 September 2019 and the House requested that it report by 4 November 2019. The Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee handed down its report, which was tabled yesterday, Monday, 21 October 2019, which is consistent with the order of this House to report by the date specified—in this case, 4 November 2019.

The Constitution of Queensland 2001 outlines provisions in relation to legislation to be considered by a portfolio committee. Pursuant to those clauses, the Legislative Assembly referred the bill in question to a portfolio committee for consideration and referred it for a period of at least six weeks. The act allows the Legislative Assembly to declare a bill urgent: when referring a bill to a committee for consideration of less than six weeks; when discharging a referred bill from a committee less than six weeks after the referral; or not refer a bill to a committee in the first place before it is considered and passed by a committee. In this case, the Legislative Assembly has, (a), referred the bill to a portfolio committee for consideration; and (b), in doing so, has set the period of the referral for at least six weeks to 4 November 2019.

It is evident by the tabling of the report that the committee has resolved without a motion of this House to report to the House earlier than the set date, which it is perfectly entitled to do. As such, on the reading of the Constitution of Queensland 2001 and the chronological facts that I have just outlined, there is no requirement for an urgency motion for this bill. Additionally, standing order 136(7) outlines—

When a Government Bill has been set down on the notice paper pursuant to (6), at least one day shall elapse until the commencement of the second reading debate, unless the Bill is declared urgent.

As the committee tabled its report yesterday, it is the government's intention to allow the bill to sit on the *Notice Paper* for at least one sitting day to conform to this requirement. As such and upon advice from the Clerk, on the collective reading of the legislation and the standing orders, an urgency motion is not required and, as such, will not be moved. I commend the motion to the House.