



Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MOTION

Business Program

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.11 am): We will not be supporting the motion. I hope the Leader of the House is going well with her recovery. I said some very nice things about her in her absence last sitting. Check *Hansard*; I am sure I did. We will be opposing this motion for the same reasons we have opposed this motion for nearly 2½ years and that is because it is anti-democratic—it is guillotining by a business program motion. The Business Committee is a complete waste of time because ultimately we put forward that there should be more time spent on all bills.

As I said yesterday, this electoral bill could be debated for three days, because the issues are so important to Queenslanders. We all know what the accountability aspect of the bill is about. The bill was introduced in November 2019. We were due to debate it in February in time for the local government elections, but that did not happen. It contains retrospective parts that we are now debating. I am glad we are finally seeing it on the agenda and will be able to thrash these issues out this week.

In the business program motion at the last sitting I said that when the House adjourns at the end of that week we will have only five sitting weeks left for this term of parliament. I correct the record because after we did that the government dropped a sitting week. This is the fourth last sitting week for this term of parliament. Going from here we will have three sitting weeks. That might change by the end of the week. The government might drop another sitting week. That is the arrogance of the Palaszczuk Labor government.

In question time this morning those opposite were going on about the LNP and various issues in the media at the moment. One party in this parliament that will not be able to lecture anyone on integrity or accountability is the Labor Party. I will take that to the bank. The LNP will not be lectured on infighting and integrity woes by the Labor Party. A third Labor minister in Victoria resigned today because of branch stacking and infighting. If people think that culture of union bullying does not extend to the Queensland Labor Party they are kidding themselves.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member has strayed well off the topic. He needs to get back to the motion that is before the House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Member for Kawana, I tend to agree. I need you to come back to the motion being debated.

Mr BLEIJIE: The debate that we are having surrounds the bills that we are debating this week and, as I have consistently said, there is not sufficient time in the House this week to debate these bills. We should be debating the electoral bill all week. The electoral aspects of the bill are important, but more important to Queenslanders is the second aspect of the bill which is, of course, the accountability and integrity aspect. The reason that has to be debated this week, and the reason we are debating it at all, is because of a member of this House. It is vitally important. Even though the Leader of the House

has reduced the hours of debate on the first two bills, there is still not enough time to forensically go through the integrity and accountability issues and why we have that legislation in parliament at the moment.

The member for Maiwar put out a bizarre Facebook post following the last sitting in which he said that thanks to the parliament's undemocratic rules and an LNP controlled speaking list he was not allowed to speak. This is from a guy who 99 per cent of the time votes with the Labor Party. He is essentially a member of the Labor Party. He is whingeing that the LNP control the speaking list. Has he not heard my speeches for two and a half years in which I say this is the most undemocratic chamber that we have seen because the Labor Party continually guillotine debate?

We are not producing the speaking list. We are not allocating the times. We have opposed the business program motion for 2½ years because of the arrogance of the Palaszczuk Labor government, the continual infighting of the Palaszczuk Labor government and the integrity scandals surrounding the Palaszczuk Labor government. We are opposed to all of that. That is why we want to sit longer. I support the member for Maiwar being able to speak more often and on more bills, but if he is going to blame anyone he should blame his mates the Labor Party. It is not the LNP denying him the opportunity; it is the Labor Party. It is the Labor Party's arrogance that blinds him. As I said, 99 per cent of the time he votes with the Labor Party. He is part of the Labor Party. Essentially, the Greens and Labor are one in the same. Members should oppose this undemocratic anti-integrity motion.