



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 August 2020

**MOTION**

**Business Program**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (11.26 am): I know the member for Kawana struggles with the 21st century, but these standing orders are consistent with legislative chambers throughout the western world and our normal procedure. Oppositions and governments need to prioritise their speakers. What we are seeing here is a range of bills. What I contest to the opposition is this: tell us which bills we should not be debating. There is the Queensland Future Fund Bill. We know the opposition want assets sales. They obviously do not want to debate that.

**Mr Crandon** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Coomera.

**Mr BAILEY:** They prefer Strong Choices. There is the Forest Wind Farm Development Bill. We know that they are against renewables. I guess it is predictable that they would oppose that bill going forward.

There are the Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and the Biodiscovery and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. They are anti environment. Every time we can rely on the LNP to be against the environment at every opportunity.

There is the Health Legislation Amendment Bill. There is a thing called a pandemic on. I do not know whether the opposition has noticed this. Necessarily, this chamber—

**Mr Crandon** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Pause the clock. Member for Coomera, since you have come into the chamber you have interjected the entire time. Your interjections are not being taken. Next time you will be warned under the standing orders.

**Mr BAILEY:** In defence of the member for Coomera, he is under tremendous pressure out there, that is for sure.

**Mr Crandon** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Coomera, you are now warned under the standing orders.

**Mr BAILEY:** What we are seeing is that necessarily the parliament's business has had to be focused on the health response. That is very clear and well known. It is a global pandemic that has huge impacts on this state like everywhere else in the world. Necessarily the legislative program has been geared towards the emergency powers and what we needed to do to deal with something that protects the lives of Queenslanders. This is the best performing state in the country because we have prioritised people's health. We have listened to health advice all the way through and we have been

consistent about it. We have not called for the borders to be opened 64 times. We have not been helping people across the border when it has been closed like the member for Currumbin, who has not just been not listening to the health advice but actively working against the health advice.

What we are seeing here is logical, orderly business. The 'death of democracy'? Spare me! The member for Kawana comes in here with his amateur thespian routines. If he does not like the Business Committee meeting I would suggest that he resign and give the position to someone who is competent. We put up with him. If it is all too much for him, maybe he should give it to somebody who actually knows what they are doing.

You have to prioritise speakers. Time and time again in the first term we heard the exact same lines from the LNP spoken by five, six or eight members. There was no original thought: they just regurgitated LNP briefing papers. That is not debate. That is not adding value to legislation. That is not contributing. It is just repetition. This place is too important for members to come in here and just repeat someone else's lines instead of making a genuine contribution. What these standing orders say is: make a genuine contribution. I know that for the opposition it is confusing to have to make a genuine, authentic, original contribution where you have research and do a lot of work. I know that is a bit difficult for them, but that is what you have to do. In a 21st century chamber in a democratic system cognate debates are normal.

We heard the member for Kawana repeatedly say, 'There's no budget.' Well, no state has a budget. There is a thing called a pandemic on. There is a federal budget coming down in October, so we will see what is in the federal budget. Like other states and jurisdictions, we will responsibly look at what is in the federal budget, and then no doubt there will be a budget that follows at some point in time after the election.

The opposition is wasting this chamber's time. This is another 15 minutes during which we could debate genuine legislation that matters. The member for Kawana loves his time when he can stand up and he can preen, he can strut, he can do his little amateur thespian routine in front of his colleagues and pretend that he knows what he is doing, but we all know that he does not. This opposition is going nowhere fast. This is a logical motion by the Attorney-General and I absolutely support it.