




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 6 February 2020

MOTION

Amendment to Business Program

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11.25 am): This amendment to the business program just shows what a joke this government is. Its management of the agenda of this parliament reflects its management of the Queensland economy and the Queensland government. Those opposite are a joke. They have proved it here this morning by moving this amendment to the business program.

Everything the Leader of the House has said over the past two years about the business program has just been shot to pieces. The Leader of the House has undermined every rationale and every reason. Apparently it is okay to curtail our ability to debate legislation in consideration in detail, but when those opposite have stuffed up and realise that they need more time we see the change in this amendment. That shows the hypocrisy of this government. If we had not made all the changes to the democratic process by limiting the hours of parliament, by limiting the hours of debate, we would not need to have this debate and this motion. This shows what a joke this government is.

There is now some confusion amongst our own members about whether they can speak about aspects of the bill that they want to talk about, because the Paradise Dam amendments are being moved between different bills. People who have already spoken in debate of the agriculture bill now wonder whether they can talk about the amendments foreshadowed to be moved to the resources bill. This is another blow to the democratic process of this state and this parliament and undermines everything the Leader of the House has said over the past two years. The credibility of the Leader of the House is shot to pieces.

Dr Rowan: It's in shreds.

Mr MANDER: It is in shreds. The Leader of the House simply follows instructions from the leadership of the government, and the leadership of the government is shambolic. As the Manager of Opposition Business has already said, those opposite are jockeying for positions. They are trying to work out who is going to take over from the left faction. We all now know that the Minister for Health—he is sitting next to the Treasurer to make it look like everything is okay, but we know what is happening behind the scenes. The Minister for Main Roads is as happy as Larry, because he wants that left faction there.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Dr Lynham interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Stafford, I think that is the second time today you have spoken when the Speaker has been on his feet. You are now warned under the standing orders.

Mr MANDER: Just checking, Mr Deputy Speaker, that the member was not already on a warning, was he?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: He was not.

Mr MANDER: Okay; just checking. Thank you.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I beg your pardon; you were correct. Member for Stafford, you will now need to leave the chamber for one hour.

Whereupon the honourable member for Stafford withdrew from the chamber at 11.29 am.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Nicholls interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Clayfield, I was on my feet; you continued to talk. You are now warned under the standing orders. You were not on the list but you are now.

Mr MANDER: Mr Deputy Speaker, we might need an amendment to the amendment now with the minister out of the parliament for the next hour! Again, this just shows that this government is clueless. It cannot manage the agenda in parliament. How can we expect it to manage the Queensland government and the Queensland economy? What we have seen already is that it cannot manage the Queensland economy, and the Auditor-General's report today about ICT projects is just another on a long list of failures, particularly in the ICT area where I think it is probably now up to about a \$500 million—half a billion dollars—overflow.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr MANDER: We want to debate that; I could not agree more with the leader of opposition business. All we are asking for is consistency and a fair go, and we have not been getting a fair go which means that our constituents have not been getting a fair go with regard to our ability to speak on what we want to speak on and for the length of time that we want to speak about it. Now when it suits the government—when the government has stuffed up—it has come in here to make this amendment to the business program motion. We would much rather—

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr MANDER: I take that interjection from the leader of opposition business: we will stay here as long as we need to stay here so that each member can have their say. We used to do that. It was a standard practice to stay here while members were here, taking advantage of the fact that while regional members were here we should do as much work as we can and save taxpayers, but not with this government. It is shambolic and it has proven to be the fraud that it is.