



Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 4 February 2020

MOTION

Business Program



Hon. YM D'ATH (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.15 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 Resources Safety and Health Queensland Bill, a maximum of 4.5 hours to complete all stages;
 - (b) the Child Death Review Legislation Amendment Bill a maximum of three hours to complete all stages;
 - (c) the Agriculture and Other Legislation Amendment Bill a maximum of three hours to complete all stages; and
2. The following time limits for the bills listed in 1 apply:
 - (a) consideration in detail to be completed by three minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours;
 - (b) question on third reading to be put by two minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours; and
 - (c) 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 2, or by 5.55 pm on Thursday, 6 February 2020, Mr Speaker:
 - (a) shall call on a minister to table any explanatory notes to their circulated amendments, any statement of compatibility with human rights or any statement relating to an override declaration;
 - (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 want to take the opportunity to welcome all members back to the House for 2020, a year which I am sure will be a very busy one, particularly for the Palaszczuk government as we continue to deliver for the people of Queensland.

The motion which has been circulated speaks for itself. The intention is to debate three bills this week with times allotted for the Resources Safety and Health Queensland Bill, the Child Death Review Legislation Amendment Bill and the Agriculture and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. The government has listened to the views of the opposition and the crossbench in drafting this motion. I thank the members of the Business Committee for their constructive discussions last evening at the meeting.

While I am on my feet I would like to update the House on some interesting statistics of the work of the House for 2019. I have been advised that in 2019 on the government bills approximately 964 individual contributions were made—46.6 per cent were government members and 58.4 per cent were non-government members. This is very similar to 2018.

I have also been advised that, compared to the previous parliament, to date, on a review of *Hansard*, on average the second reading length is up one hour and 16 minutes—in other words, we are having more debate on the second reading. On average the time taken in consideration in detail is up

eight minutes and the average number of speakers is up approximately 12 members. In summary, more time is being spent debating legislation in this House and more members are making a contribution. In short, this proves that the system is working, that the business model is working. We are getting legislation debated and passed in this House so that new laws are implemented and making a difference for all people in Queensland.

I have no doubt that we will hear from the opposition in a moment who I note continue their opposition to the business program. We hear time and time again the rhetoric of members being guillotined and not being given a right to speak, having their democracy taken away from them. The fact is that that is just not true. Members are getting to speak on bills. Contributions are being heard. They are being recorded. The people of Queensland are seeing work being done in this parliament, as it should be. I thank members for their ongoing contributions to these important debates.