



Speech By
Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2022

MOTION

Business Program

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (11.19 am): After a short vacation from having business program motions, they are back.

Mrs D'Ath: The honeymoon's over.

Mr POWELL: The honeymoon is clearly over. I take the interjection from the Leader of the House. It will come as no surprise that the opposition will not be supporting this motion. We stand by the statements made by the member for Kawana, the deputy leader of the LNP, and every other member in this House on this side of the fence who has said that we reserve the right to speak on each and every bill. That is what we are elected to do. That is what our constituents in each of our electorates elected us to do.

To take on board the comments by the Premier about us all listening to our constituencies a little more, one of the things our constituencies tell is that they want us to represent them here in this chamber. Therefore, when we come up against a business motion that is clearly guillotining debate on important legislation, we will oppose it. As has been mentioned by the Leader of the House, the bills this week include the State Penalties Enforcement (Modernisation) Amendment Bill, the Building and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and the Evidence and Other Legislation Amendment Bill—all of which have very important and relevant aspects for each of our electorates. Therefore, we in the LNP will be opposing this motion. We want to continue to speak on each bill.

As we have offered previously—the former manager of opposition business, the now deputy leader, offered for us to sit later—we are happy to sit much later if that is what is required to get these bills passed, but we will not accept any reduction of the time allowed for debate. I have already seen the speaking list for the first bill, the State Penalties Enforcement (Modernisation) Amendment Bill. I can guarantee that there are far more speakers on the list than the 2½ hours of debate will allow. I suspect it will be the same for the following two pieces of legislation. We need a House where we can debate the bills that come before it. We need to sit the hours necessary to debate those pieces of legislation. The LNP will not be supporting this motion.