




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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MOTION

Business Program

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (11.28 am): It gives me great pleasure to rise and follow the new minister for digital deletion. I am happy to correct—

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. That is not my title. I find it personally offensive and ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): The minister is correct. I remind the member for Nanango to use correct titles and I also ask that you withdraw.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I withdraw. I would suggest it is very foolish of the government to say, 'We don't want any form of democracy in this great state,' and it would be very foolish of the government to say, 'Let's just shuffle the deckchairs around.' That results in the opposition needing to ask more questions and spend more time on debate. I note that the Leader of the House actually started her speech by talking about schoolchildren. If the schoolchildren of Queensland want to know why the opposition is opposing this motion, it is because it is the right in the Westminster system of government to hear both sides of the House—not just the government, who think they can run roughshod over us each and every week. That is exactly what they do. They are so—

Mr Power: Why don't you sit down and we will get on with the debate?

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I am happy to take that interjection because it is obvious that that member needs education. Maybe that member needs to go back to school. I pity the schoolchildren in the member for Logan's electorate. When he stands in front of a class, whether it is year 6 or even high school, and they ask, 'What actually goes on in parliament?', I am quite sure the member for Logan would not be able to give—

Mr Power interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Thank you very much for your protection, Mr Deputy Speaker. I know what the government is running right now for the new ministers and that is a protection racket, and we saw that. All Queenslanders want to know is are these ministers up to the job?

We will be talking about waste reduction here today. I can tell honourable members it is a waste of time and it is not reducing anything to recycle the ministers around those portfolios. We know we need more time for debate in this House. We have seen a couple of members opposite—we have the member for Bundaberg, who was explicit in the removal and the ripping down of Paradise Dam—

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. As absorbing as the member's contribution is, it is not related to the business item. I ask that she be brought back to the item.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Nanango, I have provided everyone with latitude throughout this debate. Your contribution has been pretty broad. I would ask that you do come back to the motion.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I take your ruling, Mr Deputy Speaker. Queenslanders have a right to know what the opposition and the crossbench have to say—openness, accountability and transparency. I know the Premier has a very short memory, but what has happened in the last eight years since the day the Premier stood up and said she had been elected on the basis of openness, accountability and transparency?

An opposition member: Guillotine the debate.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Now they guillotine the debate every week. Three bills this week will be guillotined. I note the member for Clayfield's earlier comments when he asked, 'Where is the Coaldrake review, *Let the sunshine in?*' Let's let the sunshine into this parliament like we did in Cairns when we had free-flowing debate. The debate was not guillotined and it enabled not just the opposition but also the crossbench to have their say. Those crossbench members are saying they would like free-flowing debate. They may make up their mind to be added to the speaking list at the last minute. It is only just and fair that the opposition and the crossbench get as much time as possible to speak on those debates.

The tobacco bill will be guillotined at 5.25 pm this Thursday. There is no greater issue than the need—and I will not go into that debate because, of course, that would be a breach of the standing rules. However, I suggest that every member in this House would want to contribute to that debate, but it will be guillotined. The crossbench members who will want to talk on that debate will not be able to because it will be guillotined. That is because we know that the Palaszczuk government are not letting the sunshine in. They do not want any Queenslanders to know how they constantly come in here and ride roughshod over the opposition and over the crossbench. They forget it is the electors of Queensland who elect each and every member of this House. It is not always, as the Premier likes to say, 'her' government and 'her' money. It is actually Queenslanders' money. Nearly half of this House are on this side. They have been elected by the good people of Queensland and they also deserve to have their voices heard.