




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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MOTION

Business Program

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (11.24 am): It is always amusing when we get posturing and pretending from the opposition that they care about democracy. Remember their record when they were in power? They kicked the media off the premises. They kicked the opposition off the premises. They guillotined all the time. They abolished the PCCC late at night. Their record in terms of democracy and integrity are farcical and well-known. For them to come and pretend, 'We care about democracy. What about democracy?', it is pretty obvious—

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr BAILEY: It is pretty obvious. The member for Toowoomba North could not comply with health directives and got sacked. One of the rare times you see a frontbencher sacked from the LNP front bench, it was the member for Toowoomba North. He is not the one to be interjecting on integrity. He is the last one to be interjecting on integrity.

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Order, member for Toowoomba North!

Mr BAILEY: What we are seeing in the business program motion is the usual ordering of business in this House as per other legislative assemblies across this nation and across Westminster democracies. It is a tired old debate put forward by the member for Glass House. In the tradition of the member for Kawana, they have to say, 'We need more time to speak,' while using up more time to speak. That is the hypocrisy of those opposite. They need more time, but 'We are going to use up more time in debate on procedural motions.' It is embarrassing, it is humiliating, and it shows an opposition that is without credibility.

The only time they talk about democracy is when they are in opposition. The only time they talk about democracy is when they are over there, which is actually most of the time, and that is for good reason. If they had any respect for democracy, any respect for integrity, they might have got more than one term. However, we have the same old Newman government leftovers over there running the show: the former member for Mundingburra, the member for Kawana, the member for Chatsworth, the member for Clayfield—look at them all—the member for Everton, the member for Glass House, the member for Mudgeeraba and the member for Nanango. They are the same old faces running the opposition, saying that they will be different. I do not think Queenslanders are going to buy that, and there is no difference here.

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr BAILEY: I hear the member for Glass House, but I also hear the member for Kawana. It is not like he speaks his own words, it is just a rehash of the member for Kawana. I will not take up my full five-minute slot because I want to get on with matters. We are only having this debate because it is the opposition wasting this House's time with this ridiculous discussion and debate. You know that if they are talking about democracy in the LNP then they are in opposition. If they ever got back in power it would be game on again with throwing out integrity and throwing out democracy; that is what they do.

Let's get on with the ordinary order of business which is usual in a modern democracy where we have hours that are reasonable, where we are not sitting until two o'clock in the morning. I do not think the community thinks it is reasonable that lawmakers should be making laws at 1 am and 2 am, let alone the opposition's effort in that first term where half had gone to sleep and they came in here on matters in all sorts of states of undress thanks to the former member for Callide. The business item is ordinary, straightforward and reasonable. It ought to be supported.