



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**

**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 April 2023

**MOTION**

**Business Program**



**Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.18 am): I move—

1. That the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 and the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 be considered as cognate bills for their remaining stages, with:
  - (a) separate questions being put in regard to the second readings;
  - (b) the consideration of the bills in detail together; and
  - (c) separate questions being put for the third readings and long titles.
2. That the following business will be considered this sitting week, with the nominated maximum periods of time as specified:
  - (a) the Local Government and Other Legislation (Expenditure Caps) Amendment Bill, a maximum of four hours and 15 minutes;
  - (b) the Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, a maximum of four hours; and
  - (c) the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 and the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 to complete all stages by 5.55 pm on Thursday, 20 April 2023.
3. The following time limits for the bills listed in 2. apply:
  - (a) the minister to be called on in reply:
    - (i) for the Local Government and Other Legislation (Expenditure Caps) Amendment Bill, 45 minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours for the bill;
    - (ii) for the Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, 30 minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours for the bill; and
    - (iii) for the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 and the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023, by 4.35 pm on Thursday, 20 April 2023.
4. If the nominated stage of each bill has not been completed by 5.55 pm on Thursday, 20 April 2023, 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 without further debate
  - (c) may interrupt non-specified business or debate on a bill or motion to complete the requirements of the motion
  - (d) will complete all stages required by this motion notwithstanding anything contained in standing and sessional orders.

**Mr ACTING SPEAKER:** Members, please leave the House quietly.

**Mrs D'ATH:** As we outline the business program motion for this week, it is important to note that the bills which come before this chamber go through a rigorous policy development framework. From the birth of the policy idea to policy work in the department, to consultation, the cabinet process and then through the committee process, our system of legislative development and option of legislation is rigorous.

I therefore would like to take this opportunity to thank the public servants who work on policy and also the parliamentary committees and the committee staff for their assistance in not only developing the legislation but reviewing it and engaging with stakeholders right across Queensland.

While the Palaszczuk government gets on with developing and introducing legislation which will benefit Queenslanders—and I am sure those opposite will criticise us by saying they are not getting enough time to speak on the bills—those opposite are being extremely lazy in opposition. This is an opposition which is well resourced but cannot seem to make up policies for even a private member's bill. We are past the halfway mark of this term and the member for Broadwater as the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Kawana as the Deputy Leader of the Opposition have not stumped up one policy idea in the form of a bill in this chamber—nothing.

I read with interest the parliament website the other day where it says that of the 11 private members' bills introduced in this term of parliament—

**Mr POWELL:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order regarding relevance to the motion that the Leader of the House has actually moved.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Martin): I will get some advice.

**Mrs D'ATH:** Can I speak to that point of order before you rule, Mr Deputy Speaker?

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Yes.

**Mrs D'ATH:** If those opposite want to take a very narrow reading of what we debate during the business motion each week, I am happy to do that. It means they cannot prattle on every week talking about all of the irrelevant things they do.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I will take some advice on the point of order. The minister is being broadly relevant to the motion. It is a broad debate.

**Mrs D'ATH:** Those opposite come in here every week on these motions talking about the things they would like to debate. They never actually talk about introducing a private member's bill, and we know why—because that would mean they would have to come up with a policy first and then turn the policy into a private member's bill, which they really struggle with. As I said, there have been 11 private members' bills introduced in this term of parliament and none were introduced by the opposition. We will not be debating any private members' bills this week because there are so few on the *Notice Paper* and none from the opposition. This is a damning indictment of the Leader of the Opposition and his team, who cannot even muster—

**Mr Lister** interjected.

**Ms Boyd** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Southern Downs and member for Pine Rivers!

**Mrs D'ATH:** They cannot even muster the energy to develop policy, work with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel to draft legislation, go through the committee process—

**Mr Lister** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Southern Downs, you are warned under the standing orders.

**Mrs D'ATH:** They cannot even do those things which would then lead to debate of that legislation. This shows that the LNP either are lazy or have no ideas for Queenslanders—I suspect it is both. We know that the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and a number of their front bench are just recycled cabinet members from the Newman government. Maybe they hold the same views as the Newman government. Maybe they just do not want to let the cat out of the bag and reveal their policies for Queensland. Maybe they are sitting on them and waiting. I do not know if I have that much faith in them that they do actually have them, but maybe they do and they are going to sit on them until the last four weeks before the election in 2024 hoping that no-one has time to read them—although the policies I have seen in the past are generally just one page with four dot points. That is not a policy; that is a press release. They like talking about press releases; that is all they put out. They say, 'Here we have a policy,' but it is a press release and nothing more.

I am very proud of the legislation we bring before this parliament and will be debating this week. We will continue to introduce legislation and debate it through this term of government. I ask that members support the motion.