




Speech By
Hon. Glenn Butcher

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

Record of Proceedings, 20 May 2025

MOTION

Suspension of Standing Orders

 **Hon. GJ BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (12.17 pm): I rise this afternoon to speak on the procedural motion before us. I have heard it all now. The member for Currumbin said that Queenslanders told the LNP to make sure they move these motions in the Queensland parliament. I cannot remember standing outside a polling booth and hearing people ask, 'Is this the blue one that I take for the motion to suspend standing orders, because that is who I am voting for. That is what I want to do.'

The LNP government is once again dragging this House into absolute chaos, forcing us to suspend standing orders and override the same question rule. The question has to be asked: why? It is very simple: because they botched it once again. I am a tradesman and I believe in the saying that you do it once and do it properly. The LNP certainly does not follow that rule. This is the third time—I will say it again: the third time—they have had to come crawling back in to fix a mess they created. They rushed through the laws, they ignored stakeholders and they cut corners, and now they are asking this parliament to pretend that it did not happen. On this side of the House we will not pretend.

This motion today proves that the Premier and his cabinet cannot legislate their way out of a wet paper bag. Let's be honest: overriding the same question rule is not business as usual in the Queensland parliament. It is not some routine procedure; it is a desperate admission that they got it wrong once again and they do not want to deal with the consequences that come on the back of that. If these laws were so well crafted in the first place—and let's remember who crafted them in the first place; it was the Premier who said before the election, 'I've crafted the bill. I want to get it done before Christmas,' and he did it by himself—why are we back here just weeks later rewriting them?

The LNP governs by headline, not by the substance of the matter, and now Queenslanders are paying the price for its incompetence. This motion is not about safety; it is about saving face in front of Queenslanders. The legal integrity of this process in this House has been absolutely trashed once again by the LNP. This government has no idea how to manage the youth justice system in Queensland. The LNP is making law enforcement harder, not easier. This ruling is not a victory; it is an indictment on the LNP. Queenslanders deserve laws that work the first time—not a government that fumbles its way through its own agenda and rewrites history just to survive another day in Queensland.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order in relation to the contribution from the member for Gladstone and remaining relevant to the substantive motion as put.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Member for Gladstone, the point of order is somewhat valid. I would ask you to speak to the procedural motion and confine your comments to that, not the substance of the bills to which they relate.

Mr BUTCHER: Thank you. This motion today is what botched legislation looks like, and we will call it exactly what it is.