

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Standing Orders Suspension — Motion

HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the House) [4.10 pm] — without notice: I move —

That so much of standing orders be suspended as to enable the house —

- (1) to sit beyond 5.20 pm for the purpose of further consideration of the Residential Tenancies Legislation Amendment (Family Violence) Bill 2018; and
- (2) to take members' statements at a time to be determined by the house.

By way of explanation, this is not something that I like doing but we are nearly at the end of dealing with this bill and I am asking for members' forbearance to sit for as long as we need to complete the consideration of the provisions of this bill.

HON PETER COLLIER (North Metropolitan — Leader of the Opposition) [4.11 pm]: Yes, the opposition will support this motion. We are almost at the end of this bill. It is not ideal by any stretch of the imagination; I do not think anyone in this chamber would suggest it is. Having said that, we have committed to get this bill through the chamber, so the opposition will support the motion.

HON AARON STONEHOUSE (South Metropolitan) [4.11 pm]: I support this motion. I would like to see this bill pass through the house tonight and go back to the Assembly. I am sure that most of the crossbench members will agree with this motion without notice. But it is very interesting that Minister Bill Johnston, who is responsible for the carriage of this bill in the lower house, said —

When those amendments come back here, we will not be supporting them. Let me make that clear again. What is the opposition going to do? Is it going to vote against the victims?

That was a ridiculous statement by the minister in the other place. The actions of this house right now show that to be completely untrue and that we do take this bill seriously. We are doing our due diligence to ensure that the legislation is enhanced through the Committee of the Whole process, and we are willing to sit later to see this legislation pass through the house. I hope an apology will be forthcoming from Bill Johnston for those disgusting comments.

Several members interjected.

Hon AARON STONEHOUSE: But I will not take up any more of the house's time. I support this motion wholeheartedly.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I have counted the house. There is an absolute majority present, and I have not heard any dissenting voice. Therefore, I declare the motion carried with the requisite absolute majority.

Question put and passed with an absolute majority.

Sitting suspended from 4.13 to 4.30 pm