

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES AMENDMENT (DEBT AND DEFICIT REMEDIATION) BILL 2017

**490. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Premier:**

I have a supplementary question. Given that the Premier has not identified any determinations looking to be made by the SAT in the near future —

Several members interjected.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Are you done now?

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Morley and Minister for Police, I call you both to order for the first time.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Given that the Premier has not identified any determinations that are relevant to the bill he has declared urgent, can he confirm that this is merely a political stunt, given that the last bill the government declared urgent, the Dangerous Sexual Offenders Legislation Amendment Bill 2017, is languishing in the Legislative Council and has not been given priority for debate?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Girrawheen and Minister for Tourism, I call you both to order for the first time.

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

Mr Speaker —

**Mrs L.M. Harvey** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Scarborough, you have asked a question. Let him answer it.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** A couple of issues: the Parliament has not been sitting and there has been this thing called the budget, which is kind of important!

Several members interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I think that explains a lot of things. They do not understand that the budget is actually important.

**The SPEAKER:** Members! Just let him answer the question.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The budget is actually important and it is important that that matter be dealt with. In relation to both of those issues, first, ensuring that we deal with the wages approach to judges, senior public servants and politicians, I do regard that as important. It is important that we set the right example with respect to other wages arrangements in the broader public sector. Although I would like to offer bigger wages arrangements for public servants across Western Australia, the reality is that we cannot currently afford to do so. So, dealing with that urgently I think sets the right tone and the right example for the remainder of the public sector.

The second point is about dangerous sex offenders. We have to remember with these laws that we never know what the Liberal Party is going to do. We actually tried to expeditiously get laws through the upper house to ensure that people convicted of murder who do not reveal the location of their victim's body are dealt with, and the Liberal Party blocked it. So who knows what they are going to do with the dangerous sex offenders legislation? They will probably vote against it. There is no consistency in the Liberal Party, and the Leader of the Opposition has no authority in the Liberal Party. So who knows what they are going to do in the other place? Who knows what is going to happen? It is a strange environment indeed that is persisting inside the Liberal Party at the moment—voting against budget measures, voting in favour of murderers and people who do not reveal the bodies of their victims. Who knows what they are going to do in relation to dangerous sex offenders or, indeed, on the issue of pay for senior public servants, politicians and judges?