

*Sittings of the Legislative Council — Leader of the Opposition's Comments — Adjournment Debate*

**HON NORMAN MOORE (Mining and Pastoral — Leader of the House)** [10.49 pm]: In respect of the matters raised by the Leader of the Opposition, let me say this very quickly: the Legislative Assembly has been dealing for three weeks with a major piece of legislation to do with waste disposal levies. That is very unusual in the other house. I know for a fact that debate has been filibustered. Whether the Leader of the Opposition likes to call it that is up to her. The view of the Leader of the Opposition in the other place is that the only way they can manage business in the Assembly is to gag debate; what sort of comment is that to make about a house of Parliament? The only way that they can manage is to gag debate! It is a ludicrous situation to suggest that the only way they can manage a house is to gag debate. They would prefer to have debates properly, just as I would prefer them to be run properly in this house where we do not use gags, so that they can actually debate an issue from the beginning to the end. To suggest that the only way they can manage the Legislative Assembly is for the government to gag debate is ludicrous. The Leader of the Opposition knows and I know that debate on the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment Bill has been going on for three weeks. When we decided to have an additional week of sitting in this particular part of the session, it was on the basis that that bill would have been passed at least a week ago and we could have been dealing with it this week. That has not happened and it still has not been passed. That is the situation.

Several members interjected.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order!

**Hon NORMAN MOORE:** Those are the simple facts of the matter. When we made a decision to spend an extra week sitting, it was on the basis of the legislative program as I understood it was going to be.

*Point of Order*

**Hon SALLY TALBOT:** Mr President, I draw your attention to standing order 100, although I must concede it is not so much a matter of irrelevance or tedious repetition. The Leader of the House is wrong in what he is saying. I choose my words very carefully on the basis of your earlier advice to the Leader of the Opposition. I would like to know how the Leader of the House proposes to tell the difference between filibustering and a level of outrage being expressed in the other place that simply reflects that this government has managed to put every single stakeholder offside, and it is that disgust with the government's move that is being expressed in the other place.

**The PRESIDENT:** That is not a point of order; it is a point of view.

*Debate Resumed*

**Hon NORMAN MOORE:** And a very poor one, I might add.

Several members interjected.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order! Let us just resume the adjournment debate.

**Hon NORMAN MOORE:** Because the motion to have a special adjournment is a procedural motion, I was unable to respond to the comments of the Leader of the Opposition. I am using this opportunity now, which I am entitled to do, but I cannot respond again if she decides to have another go, so I accept that. The bottom line is simply this: if that legislation had been passed in the normal period of time in the other house, we would be sitting tomorrow and dealing with the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment Bill.