

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Standing Orders Suspension

MR J.C. KOBELKE (Nollamara - Leader of the House) [2.44 pm]: I move -

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as is necessary to enable private members' business notices of motion Nos 22 and 32 to be considered during time otherwise allocated for government business.

The reason for this motion to suspend standing orders is only a partial one; that is, two disallowance motions have been put on the Notice Paper by members opposite. One disallowance motion relates to Wireless Hill and the other is the disallowance of metropolitan region scheme amendment No 1055/33, which is the deletion of the Fremantle eastern bypass. The Government would like to deal with those motions in the next two days. Clearly there has been a reduction in time available to the Opposition, which is the normal time during which those matters would be dealt with. This motion to suspend standing orders simply means that, some time later today or tomorrow, those matters can be brought on for debate in government time, if we are able to do that, and we certainly would seek to do so. However, we need to pass this motion to take up that opportunity.

MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys) [2.45 pm]: The comments of the Leader of the House are quite appropriate. If the Government wants to bring on a disallowance motion that is listed as private members' business, it should use government time, because private members' time is very limited, particularly at this time of the year. The Opposition will not oppose the motion to suspend standing orders, which will allow the Government to do that. When does the Leader of the House intend to deal with these matters?

Mr J.C. Kobelke: We would like to start from this evening.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: In that case, the Opposition is prepared to deal with these disallowance motions and will not oppose the motion to suspend standing orders.

MR M.W. TRENORDEN (Avon - Leader of the National Party) [2.46 pm]: I congratulate the Leader of the House, because it is important that these matters are debated. Even though the jacarandas are in full bloom in the crazy part of the sitting process, I still think it is important that disallowance motions are debated. This motion has the support of the National Party.

The SPEAKER: If I hear a dissenting voice, I will need to divide the House.

Question put and passed with an absolute majority.