

**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, POSTPONEMENT OF  
DEBATE**

*Motion*

**MR J.C. KOBELKE** (Nollamara - Leader of the House) [4.33 pm]: I move -

That consideration of government business notice of motion No 1 be postponed to Tuesday, 26 August 2003.

**MR R.F. JOHNSON** (Hillarys) [4.33 pm]: The Opposition is ready to debate this issue any time the Premier likes. I have a nagging suspicion that this motion is being postponed until the dust settles over some actions of some government members and ministers that are before the media, the public and this House. We could have a field day with this motion now. Although in many respects the Opposition does not mind this matter being postponed, it has some amazing material that it wants to debate. The motion contains very little substance. As usual, most of the issues the Premier announced in his media spin are covered in standing orders or in the parliamentary members' interest register.

I will not delay the House. The Leader of the House has indicated that if the Government is not ready to deal with this issue on 26 August, it will postpone it to an even later stage. I suggest that the Premier use the extra time to add some matters that should be added. Nothing in this motion refers to ministerial accountability.

Mr J.C. Kobelke: You cannot speak to the motion; it is a procedural motion.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I am discussing why the Opposition will agree with this motion. I am not talking about the specific subject matter of the motion. I am suggesting that the Government use this time constructively to think of something worthwhile to add to the proposed code of conduct, such as how to deal with situations in which ministers may be accused of bullying. It does not cover situations in which certain members on the side of the Leader of the House use inappropriate language in this place. Why? That situation is probably covered by the standing orders. The proposed code of conduct should cover more than the airy-fairy words in the motion. I urge the Leader of the House and the Premier to add something of substance to the proposal, and the Opposition will willingly debate it on the date suggested.

Question put and passed.