



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**MOTIONS**

**Dissent from Ruling**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 18 June 2015**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

**Date** Thursday, 18 June 2015  
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**Questioner**  
**Speaker** Burke, Tony, MP

**Source** House  
**Proof** No  
**Responder**  
**Question No.**

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**Mr BURKE** (Watson—Manager of Opposition Business) (13:36): With respect to the esteemed position of the Leader of the House, my question was not to the Leader of the House. My question is to you, Mr Deputy Speaker Vasta. It was a situation where people on the crossbench changed their votes, where according to the tellers, did take place. In that circumstance, I am asking: how will it be recorded in *Hansard* that there were 78 people there, when in fact only 74 people voted on that side? The official record counts four people who never bothered to turn up to the chamber. How can that be?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: As the Manager of Opposition Business knows, there are tellers for both sides, and this has been recorded by tellers from both sides. It has been universally agreed to, and the Clerk has given me that result. That is the reason why.

**Mr BURKE**: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order. With respect to that, the advice that the count was wrong has been given by the tellers. The tellers have raised that they were told that they had to hand in a count that is inaccurate. If there are 74 people there and the record says 78, how on earth can the official record of this parliament include people voting when they did not in fact vote?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: None of that information has been directly relayed to me as Deputy Speaker. I call the member for Shortland.