



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY

SPEECH

Thursday, 7 September 2000

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Date Thursday, 7 September 2000	Source House
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Questioner	Responder
Speaker Albanese, Anthony, MP	Question No.

Mr ALBANESE (Grayndler) (5.14 pm)—I move:

That so much of standing orders be suspended as would prevent the member for Grayndler moving a motion forthwith that the Minister for Community Services be required to inform parliament before it rises tonight how his decision to impose a requirement on the Parliamentary Library that requests for information regarding Centrelink be directed through his ministerial office does anything other than cause delay and filter the information provided to the library.

It is absolutely outrageous that this government—

Motion (by **Mr Slipper**) proposed:

That the member be not further heard.

Mr Leo McLeay—Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The member for Grayndler had not finished reading out his motion. Under the standing orders, he is required to be allowed to complete reading out his motion before rude members of the government try to sit him down. We at least have that much democracy left here, I would hope.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mrs De-Anne Kelly)—There is no point of order. The minister is entitled to raise a point of order, as is any other member of the House.

Mr ALBANESE—I believe that this debate is exactly about accountability of the parliament. I should be allowed to read out my motion to the parliament so that there can be proper discussion as to whether it should be debated or not. This whole issue is an issue about the integrity of this parliament.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER—With respect, that is not a point of order. Please resume your seat. The minister has moved that the member be not further heard.

Question put.