



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILLS

**Migration Amendment
(Complementary Protection) Bill 2011**

Second Reading

SPEECH

Thursday, 12 May 2011

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH

Date Thursday, 12 May 2011
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Questioner
Speaker Albanese, Anthony, MP

Source House
Proof No
Responder
Question No.

Mr ALBANESE (Grayndler—Leader of the House and Minister for Infrastructure and Transport) (18:01): Mr Deputy Speaker, on indulgence, I make the point now on the *Hansard* record that the calling of a quorum by members of the opposition at six o'clock on the night of the budget reply potentially would stop the Leader of the Opposition from giving his budget reply at 7.30. If there is any example of how incompetent, of how prepared to wreck this parliament those opposite are, it is that stupid action by the member for Bowman. I want to put on the record that I rang the office of the Manager of Opposition Business to inform them that they had better get some people in the chamber, and none of them came in. So perhaps what it says to me is that the opposition do not want to hear their own opposition leader give a budget reply this evening at 7.30.

I say to the opposition: it is this sort of childish, mindless negativity that is seeing the failure of the Leader of the Opposition to provide proper alternative government in this nation. If anything exemplifies it, it is the actions of those idiots opposite in calling a quorum. So I say to them and put them on notice that, if they do not want the opposition leader to give his reply tonight, call a quorum again. Call a quorum again, because the next time it will be their responsibility to fulfil the quorum. We have done our duty tonight on behalf of the parliament. And it is about time that they understood that there are some things in this House that should be beyond partisanship.

Mr Laming: On a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker: I would ask that the Leader of the House withdraw that offensive remark.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER (Hon. DGH Adams): Order! The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer.