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ANC 'won't vote with EFF'

OBAKENG MAJE

ANC chief whip in the North West provincial legislature Raymond Elisha said the ruling party would not vote with the opposition if a motion of no confidence in Premier Supra Mahumapelo is debated.

This follows an application by the EFF to have a motion of no confidence debated and voted for in the chamber.

"We are aware that the EFF wants a debate on motion of no confidence in Mahumapelo.

"We have taken a decision as ANC deployees that if the speaker grants that, no ANC member will vote with the opposition. We have our own policies on how to deploy and remove our deployees as the ruling party," he said.

Legislature spokesperson Tebogo Chaane said they had received a letter from the EFF members of the provincial legislature (MPLs) requesting a debate on motion of no confidence in Mahumapelo.

"We can confirm that the MPLs from EFF have submitted a letter requesting a debate on a motion of no confidence in Mahumapelo. However, Speaker Sussana Dantjie has not taken any decision yet. The EFF request that the vote on the motion of no confidence be a secret ballot," Chaane said.

Meanwhile, Mahumapelo said he would not let his detractors get to him and he will continue to perform his duties without hindrance.

He said the swoop by the Hawks last week was part of efforts his government has repeatedly put forward to fight graft in the province.

"In all my state of the province addresses (Sopa) since 2014, I have always emphasised the importance of all of us as directed by our organisation, the ANC, to intensify on all fronts, the campaign against greed, crime and corruption. In this regard, the provincial government has adopted a monthly Setsokotsane programme focusing on 10 campaigns, which includes this matter.

"In my Sopa in Marikana, I reiterated that we must work with and allow South Africa's law enforcement agencies to do their work without fear, favour or prejudice.

"So, as the office of the premier, we welcome and support the initiative taken by the Hawks in relation to allegations of fraud and corruption within sections of supply chain management in the office of the premier and finance department," he said.

Mahumapelo said they also wanted to remind people they have instituted various ongoing investigations such as by the Special Investigating Unit in the department of public works and roads, forensic investigations in the departments of health, local government and human settlements and other departments, including some of the municipalities.

He said it was important for all of them irrespective of their positions in the government and elsewhere, to allow their offices to be subjected to the rule of law. – Newsnote