



Speech by

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE**

**MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE**

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Hansard 18 July 2000

**GOVERNMENT PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE** (Surfers Paradise—NPA) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.18 a.m.): Events over the last few days have clearly demonstrated that this is a Government that is all spin and no substance. Indeed, the leaked public relations strategy from the office of the Deputy Premier, disowned by the Treasurer, shows how deceitful this Government is prepared to be.

**Mr ELDER:** I rise to a point of order. The remark is untrue. I want it withdrawn. It was not leaked.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** I said "the office of the Deputy Premier". I cannot help it if the Deputy Premier tells his staff to leak it on his behalf. I did not say that the Deputy Premier leaked it.

**Mr ELDER:** I rise to a point of order. The remark is untrue. I want it withdrawn.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** The new-found sensitivity of the Deputy Premier astounds us! Of course I will withdraw. The Deputy Premier did not leak it; his staff leaked it. It came out of the office of the Deputy Premier.

**Mr ELDER:** I rise to a point of order.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** It came out of the office of the Deputy Premier.

**Mr ELDER:** The Leader of the Opposition can have his go. It was not leaked. I find the remark untrue and I want it withdrawn.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** In view of the assurance given by the Deputy Premier, we will just have to assume that the Treasurer leaked it. If the Deputy Premier did not leak it, the Treasurer must have leaked it.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Just withdraw first and we will be right.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** Whoever leaked it, we have this brilliant public relations strategy—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Just withdraw first.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** I will withdraw. We have this brilliant public relations strategy where, for the first time in the history of this State, the Budget has been blown out of the water by the spin doctors who are supposed to be selling it. And we have this novel approach that when there is any suggestion the Budget is in trouble, you have to laugh it off. We do not believe that the finances of the State of Queensland are a laughing matter. Then we have this—

Time expired.

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