



Speech by

**JOHN MICKEL, <sup>MLA</sup>**  
**STATE MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

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**LIBERAL PARTY FUNDRAISING**

**Mr MICKEL** (Logan—ALP) (10.15 a.m.): On Thursday night of the previous sitting, the member for Warrego sent out in an all-points bulletin a plea to find his missing washing. Several days later the member for Rockhampton and Minister for Public Works and Minister for Housing also discovered that his shirts were missing. These were no accidents. These were cries for help. It is time we revealed to the public what is really happening. None of these items were stolen, but I have it on good authority that the Queensland branch of the Liberal Party is so broke that its state parliamentary members are taking in washing and ironing as a fundraiser. In fact, that is where the member for Moggill is at the moment. However, like any new enterprise it has a few teething problems. With the parliamentary sessions about to get longer with weekly, back-to-back sittings, the backlog in washing and ironing will become so chronic that we run the grave risk of descending into a naked parliament. Nude Nationals will be the ultimate Liberal payback for ending the coalition.

Only a statesman can save Queenslanders from a parliamentary scene that would rival the *Big Brother* television program. I call upon the Honourable Premier to hold a business lunch and donate the funds to the Liberal Party. The only problem with this solution is that I understand that the debt is so large that he would have to book every room at the convention centre with business donors just to make an impact.

However, there is a better solution that I know will have broad support in the Liberal Party. In the last parliament we revealed the existence of one of politics' best kept secrets: the existence of the Clayfield electorate staff fund account into which the former member for Clayfield poured a small fortune from his fundraising efforts. I know that the fund is healthy, because it had to put in a late return disclosing more than \$30,000 in fundraising in a non-election year. There is no longer any legal use for such a fund.

I say to the Premier: after question time, take a mercy dash to the international airport and speak to the former member for Clayfield. Our washing will be safe and, above all, we will be saved from a worse fate than this.

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