



Speech by  
**Jarrold Bleijie**

**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

Hansard Wednesday, 18 August 2010

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### **CUMMINS, MR C**

**Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.57 am): In 2001 I ran in a council by-election in the old Caloundra City Council area. Out of the nine candidates in the field I ran third. The then member for Kawana, Chris Cummins, made a speech in the House regarding candidates in that by-election and I was lucky enough to rate a mention, although it was hardly a glowing endorsement. Almost 10 years later I have pleasure in giving the residents of Fisher a summary of Mr Cummins's colourful past before his candidacy for Fisher at this Saturday's federal election.

Mr Cummins's most recent bungle was as a senior IT adviser to the Minister for Public Works and Information and Communication Technology. He was one of the most senior bureaucrats involved in the debacle of changing over the Queensland Health payroll system. I submit to the House that the bungle is ongoing, with no end in sight. When questioned about his role in the debacle, Mr Cummins stated that he had no role in the pay issue and also that as a federal candidate he could not comment on any state issues. The 'minister for nothing' has become the 'IT adviser who has nothing to do with anything'. It is what one expects when two ministers deny responsibility. He was trained by the incompetent best in the Bligh government.

One state issue that he is happy to discuss is the Sunshine Coast University Hospital. With tremendous audacity he says that the LNP has delayed the hospital. I remind Mr Cummins that it is the Labor Party that has delayed the hospital. I table a copy of the misleading brochure he has sent out.

*Tabled paper:* Copy of an election flyer for candidate Chris Cummins [2769].

Let us talk about Mr Cummins's policy on health. He is going around now saying that health is a major issue. I table for members opposite a copy of a letter that Mr Cummins wrote in 2003 in which he states, believe it or not, Parliamentary Secretary for Health—

I do not agree with your opinion that our area is suffering from a gross lack of hospital facilities.

*Tabled paper:* Bundle of correspondence from the then Chris Cummins MP to Maureen Mileham regarding hospital facilities for Kawana [2770].

That is what Chris Cummins said in 2003. He is misleading the public by now stating that there is any issue in relation to health at all—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Hoolihan): Order! The member's time has expired.

**Mr BLEIJIE:**—because he did not believe there was any issue with health services on the Sunshine Coast in 2003.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Before calling the member for Mulgrave, I would say this: member for Kawana, when your time is called and you try to talk over the chair, it is gross disrespect to the chair. When you are called, that is the end of your time.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. My apologies.