




Speech by

Annastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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PUBLIC SERVICE, JOBS

 **Ms PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.09 pm): Today we saw some 10,000 people march down the street to the area outside Parliament House. Not only were they marching on this parliament, but they were also marching right across this state—down on the Gold Coast, up on the Sunshine Coast and up in Townsville and Cairns. Why are they angry? They are angry about the job cuts that this government has inflicted on the state. They are very angry.

But I am not the only voice that is saying that what is happening in this state is a disgrace. Clive Palmer was on *Lateline* tonight and he said exactly these words, 'It is a disgrace what is happening in this state of Queensland.' Never did I think that I would be in a state where tens of thousands of people would march in protest against what this government is doing. Every single LNP member must bear the brunt of their decisions regarding this budget to sack thousands of workers in this state. Who has taken joint responsibility? The Premier and the Treasurer are absolutely responsible. The Treasurer said, 'I take full responsibility.' Full responsibility means that he understands that the livelihoods of all these people are gone. Now how are they feeling? How does he think they are feeling tonight? How does he think they are feeling, having to go home and talk to their families and say that their job has been ripped out? How are they feeling when they have been told that their job has been ripped out from underneath them?

There is dignity and there is self-respect in having a job, and thousands of workers have been told, either by email or by phone, that they have no job. There has also been no recognition given to these workers. Members opposite can all sit there and smile and smirk, but these people have given decades of their life to improving the state of Queensland. Do they get a thankyou? Did they get a farewell? They got nothing from this government. They got absolutely nothing from this government.

Ms Trad: They got a brown box.

Ms PALASZCZUK: That is right; they got a box. It is a disgrace. For once, Clive Palmer has it right; what is happening in this state is a disgrace.