



Speech by
Carl Judge

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

Hansard Thursday, 29 November 2012

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY, RESIGNATION FROM LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY



Mr JUDGE (Yeerongpilly—LNP) (2.41 pm): Today I rise with a heavy heart to resign from the LNP.

A government member: Good.

Government members: Hear, hear!

Mr JUDGE: I supported the LNP's policies in the lead-up to the election on 24 March this year. I worked hard campaigning since 2010. I acknowledge and respect—I always will truly respect—all of the volunteers who helped me on the journey to get here, especially my family.

It is my responsibility to represent my electorate and, sadly, I do not believe that this government is fulfilling its election promises.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mrs Cunningham): Order!

Mr JUDGE: Undertaking to act with humility, grace and respect is an important undertaking. In my belief, that has not occurred. The Public Service were informed that they had nothing to fear. We all know today that that was not true. These two basic pledges have been brought into question time and time again in this parliament.

Queensland's state debt needs to be addressed—there is no doubt about that—but controlling debt needs to be done in a way that is respectful to the people. There are plenty of young people and young families with mortgages who are being placed in turmoil and under great stress as a consequence of the approach taken by the current government. I simply cannot continue to serve this government and I simply cannot serve with people who lack respect, who want to yell abuse across the chamber and who will not allow mature debate to take place. I will not be a part of that team.

Governments must remain true to their pre-election promises, and I will not be a part of a government that does not do that. When a government says that the Public Service and others have nothing to fear, it needs to hold true to that promise. If 'there will be no carbon tax under a government I lead', hold true to that promise. And if 'there will be no asset sales', hold true to that promise. As a consequence of that approach to government, I simply cannot continue under the current government. I say that with great sadness because there are many members in this parliament whom I respect greatly—on the opposite side, on this side and up the back with the Independents and the Katter party. I respect them immensely, but I will not continue to mislead the public. When we are elected and make promises, we must maintain them.