




Speech by
Jo-Ann Miller

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Hansard Wednesday, 12 September 2012

PUBLIC SERVICE, JOBS

 **Mrs MILLER** (Bundamba—ALP) (11.26 pm): At the outset I would like to table the definition of 'pastiche' for the benefit of the member for Mansfield, who has obviously been excreting bricks all afternoon following the march today of thousands of people outside the parliament protesting against the Public Service sackings.

Tabled paper: Definition of 'pastiche' from oxforddictionaries.com [1040].

There were 10,000 people out the front of the parliament today. There were also thousands of people across Queensland—in Cairns, Townsville and other regional communities—who are sick and tired of the disgraceful slash and burn of the Newman LNP government. They know that it is not can-do spin doctors who put out fires; it is the public servants. They know that it is not can-do spin doctors who collect accident victims off the road; it is the public servants. They know that it is not can-do spin doctors who help children who have been abused; it is the public servants. They know that it is not can-do spin doctors who save heart attack victims; it is the public servants. What did those opposite do to those decent, dedicated, hardworking public servants? They lowered themselves again. They did not send the box man in with his cardboard boxes. What did public servants get? An email. You gutless wonders! It is just amazing. They got an email. How impersonal is that?

Madam SPEAKER: Member for Bundamba, that is unparliamentary. I ask you to withdraw.

Mrs MILLER: I withdraw. How impersonal is that? They were told to pack up their personal things and get out. They were told, 'Here's a taxi voucher to get home.' No time for tears, no time for farewells, no time to say goodbye to lifelong friends. And then they had to go home and tell their families that they had been sacked. One was a bloke I knew who had worked in the Public Service for 38 years. He was told to go home and get out. How disgusting and disgraceful is that?

These public servants know that this government is not going to stop at sacking 14,000 workers; there will also be workers going from community groups that it has defunded. There will also be slashing of working conditions such as the meal break payments for ambos, and the petty moving of the Labour Day public holiday from May, when it has been held for over 100 years.

This is just absolutely incredible. They are saying that they do not want anything more to do with this LNP government. They are sick of the members across here, who smile and smirk while they go around sacking Queensland workers. As they were saying today—

We'll be sacking Campbell Newman in two years

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Yes, you sack them and they will sack you in return.