



Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

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Record of Proceedings, 21 May 2015

**ADJOURNMENT**

**State of Origin; Ethics Committee, Report**

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (6.41 pm): It is that time of year when people from Queensland and people from New South Wales don their true colours and proudly declare their state of origin. From schools to workplaces, in family homes and sporting teams, our competitive spirit is again sparked by a fierce but friendly rivalry. State of Origin is the biggest rivalry in Rugby League. The Queensland Maroons will take on the New South Wales Blues at ANZ Stadium next Wednesday night in game 1 of the 2015 series. The second game will be held at the MCG on 17 June and the possible decider will be held at Suncorp Stadium here in Queensland on 8 July in front of an expected sell-out 50,000-strong crowd which will bring millions of dollars to the local economy. In keeping with the tradition of state against state, Premier against Premier, yesterday afternoon Premier Mike Baird lay down this year's challenge: the Premier of the losing state will wear the rival's jersey and colours during question time in parliament. I am sure all Queenslanders and members in this House will agree: Mike Baird will look very good in maroon! I look forward to this year's State of Origin and I am sure that our boys will do us proud.

On another matter, I note the tabling of report No. 154 of the Ethics Committee which found that I did not intend to mislead the House in my budget reply speech on 5 June 2014 as Leader of the Opposition and recommended that the House take no further action. The committee did recommend, however, that I reiterate the clarifying statements that I made to the former committee. I am more than happy to do so. My reference to massive cuts to education funding referred to state contributions and in real terms a cut of \$25 million. My reference to teachers losing their jobs was a reference to teacher librarians and TAFE teachers.