



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 19 May 2015

**MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Federal Budget**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (11.59 am): I rise to speak about the federal government budget and to congratulate the government on delivering a budget which is fair for Queensland and which should put an end to the misinformation being spruiked by this inexperienced state Labor government. The Palaszczuk-Gordon government's attempt to use the federal budget as an excuse for not having a plan of its own will not wash with Queenslanders. It is a budget that delivers good news for Queensland schools. Queensland schools will receive an additional—let me say that again, an additional—\$876 million from the 2014-15 financial year to the 2018-19 financial year. That is a 28.8 per cent increase. This puts to death the ridiculous, shrill claims made by the education minister that federal funding for education has been cut. What aspect of \$876 million in additional funds does this minister not understand? Do we have to count it out for her?

Minister Jones has joined her federal counterpart, Kate Ellis, in, as ABC Fact Check says, 'sprouting rubbery figures'. When ABC Fact Check speaks against a Labor government, it is fact. That is a big call. When it states that, it is obviously stating the truth. Mr Deputy Speaker, how can you cut future fanciful figures that were announced by Bill Shorten when he was federal education minister when none of these promises were funded? But, of course, this is the Labor way: announcing grandiose schemes and motherhood statements with absolutely no plan for future funding whatsoever.

**Mr Powell:** Confirmed by the minister this morning.

**Mr MANDER:** Absolutely. I take that interjection from the member for Glass House. Minister Jones seems to be captivated by Bill Shorten's unfunded promises for federal funding, but I would say to the minister: be incredibly careful what you wish for. Be very careful of what you want, because what the minister fails to talk about is the whole box and dice. What are the strings attached to that future fanciful funding that the then education minister in the Rudd government announced? What this minister has to talk about is if this government receives the Gonski deal how would it meet the funding commitment that comes with it? What people may not understand is that the Gonski funding comes with a commitment required from the state government to produce an extra \$953 million in years 5 and 6. That is nearly a billion dollars, but what is a billion dollars when you are already \$80 billion in debt at the moment?

In the last sitting of parliament and in this sitting of parliament today Minister Jones said, 'I will be taking it up to Tony Abbott every single day to ensure that we get funding for Queensland schools,' and she pointed her finger for emphasis and said that twice. What does 'taking it up every single day' actually mean? I have checked with the office of the federal minister to see how Minister Jones has taken it up every single day. Has she written a letter? No. Has she sent an email? No. Has she made a phone call? No. Has she done a text message? We know that she tweets. She has been following my tweets. Did she do a tweet? No. She has done nothing—duck eggs; zero. She is all words and no action. She got very angry and very annoyed but has delivered absolutely nothing.

This government cannot continue to use the federal budget as an excuse for what it is not delivering. She obviously applied the same approach with Bill Shorten when she approached him to lobby for that funding in his budget reply speech because he also did nothing. He has announced absolutely nothing. Playing the blame game and scaremongering are no longer options for this Minister for Education. Minister Jones needs to stop crying crocodile tears and start telling Queensland families how she will use the extra \$876 million she is getting from the federal government over the next four years to improve results in schools, as the former government did with the Great Results Guarantee.

*(Time expired)*