




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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ADJOURNMENT

Member for Bundaberg

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (10.06 pm): As they say in the classics, let the games begin; let the auditions start. I can tell the member for Pine Rivers and the member for Sunnybank that they are okay after that presentation. I saw them looking over the shoulder of the member for Barron River hoping he would stuff up his speech just a little bit so they would still be in with a chance. After that presentation they are still in with a chance. We saw it earlier: the factions were meeting; the function rooms were booked out. Evan Moorhead was running in and out of the Premier's office. There were mice running around. It was more exciting than the Melbourne Cup. Of course, the winner of the sweep will be whoever ends up replacing the member for Bundaberg.

As the honourable opposition leader said earlier today, this is a test of character, integrity and leadership not of any of those members but of the member who sits in the Premier's chair, the member for Inala. The Premier has shown a complete lack of leadership over the last 18 months. We have had the member for Bundamba resign; she fell on her sword. At least the former minister the member for Bundaberg had the guts to resign. The Premier does not have the guts to sack them; that is the problem. If I was sitting where the honourable transport minister is I would be thinking, 'Gee, if she went for her sins in the last 24 hours, what am I here for? How come I'm still here? Why am I still sitting here?' I suspect it is not going to be for long.

I ask honourable members why is it that every time the Labor Party loses one of their incompetent ministers or members, the Premier is nowhere to be seen? She is MIA. The Premier did not even have the decency to come in here tonight and tell the people of Queensland why her minister resigned, that is, a minister of the Crown. What did the Premier know? I think I know what the Premier knew. I think the Deputy Premier knew a lot more than the Premier knew. I have heard that the resignation went to the Deputy Premier first to get approval. 'Will this be okay? The left still has someone.' They do because they have the member for Pine Rivers sitting there ready to come in and replace the Minister for Agriculture. I hope she has more than a veggie patch and a herb garden in her backyard if she is going to be the agriculture minister, or a couple of pot plants out the back that she is harvesting.

This is a test of the leadership of Annastacia Palaszczuk, the Premier. She is always missing in action from this crisis driven government—she is never around. I suspect she is already on the government jet to some remote part of Queensland and will be missing in action tomorrow. The transport minister should resign. If he is not going to follow the leadership of the member for Bundaberg, then the Premier has no choice but to sack the incompetent transport minister tonight.