




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Industrial Relations

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (10.55 am): Today's *Courier-Mail* says it all: 'Fools & Tools'. I hear the fools are abseiling down Parliament House in Canberra already this morning. If we look last night in the industrial relations debate, the Minister for Industrial Relations put a big red bow on that thousand-page document, handed it to the union movement and said, 'Ho, ho, ho; merry Christmas, union movement.' Over the year to September 2016 Queensland is home to almost half of all working days lost to industrial action. Queensland is the strike capital of Australia and they are proud of it.

Some 213,000 Queenslanders work in the construction industry in Queensland. There are currently 34 CFMEU Queensland representative officials before the courts for alleged breach of industrial law—the highest number in the country in Queensland. Over the last decade alone Queensland courts have issued \$1.1 million in fines to the union movement including work on Brisbane Airport car park, the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Pacific Fair Shopping Centre, Gold Coast Hilton and University of Technology's common ground.

A few weeks ago when the Premier was asked about all the issues in the union movement by a journalist who said, 'Should the Labor Party disassociate with the union movement?', Premier Palaszczuk said, 'Why, what is wrong?' Yet a month before that when asked about the same disassociation from more matters with respect to CFMEU, the Premier said, 'Just because there's one bad apple in the bunch doesn't mean they are all bad.' How many bad apples in a bag do you need to make an issue for a case for change?

Then we have the health minister, the member for Woodridge, who I understand has one of those fly-in fly-out tickets for Woodridge. He flies in and when he wants out of Woodridge he flies out. He is a fly-in fly-out worker of Woodridge.

Mr DICK: Mr Speaker, I am a proud resident of the electorate of Woodridge and a ratepayer of the City of Logan.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! What is your point of order?

Mr DICK: I find those words personally offensive and I ask the member to withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Kawana, will you kindly withdraw?

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: Before you proceed, I am having difficulty hearing some of the contributions. I know I allow a fair bit of latitude during this section but I would ask you for some tolerance.

Mr BLEIJIE: The member for Woodridge attended a Labor conference a few years ago. One can never forget when David Hinchliffe, I think it was at the time, referred to the member for Woodridge as the gormless show pony of the Labor Party!

Mr DICK: Mr Speaker, I take personal offence to that. I might be a show pony but I am certainly not gormless.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Minister, do you find those comments offensive and are you asking them to be withdrawn?

Mr DICK: No, Mr Speaker, I withdraw my objection.

Mr SPEAKER: I call the member for Kawana.

Mr BLEIJIE: At the same convention the member for Bundamba said that the member for Woodridge has no interest but self-interest. This is the strike capital of Australia—

(Time expired)