



Speech By  
**Tim Nicholls**


**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**McConnell, Mr D; Justice Kiefel, Appointment as Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia; LNP Opposition, Achievements**

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.46 am): Today in this place, I start by acknowledging someone from my own electorate: the undies hero, Daniel McConnell, who did a terrific job chasing down someone who had been charged in the electorate. Daniel has four kids at Hendra State School, which I attended on Thursday morning to chat with the P&C. Daniel is a great local guy. He is always quick to offer to flip sausages on the barbecue. He is a terrific example of a local hero. I also join the shadow Attorney-General in congratulating Justice Susan Kiefel on her appointment as Chief Justice of the High Court. That is a terrific appointment.

While the inexperienced Palaszczuk government stumbles from one crisis to the next, the LNP is out listening to Queenslanders about the issues that are important to them. Queenslanders are telling us that nothing is happening. Their communities have been forgotten by Labor. They are falling behind under an incompetent government that is afraid of making decisions and ministers who simply are not up to the job of managing their portfolios. Alarming, we lead the nation in job losses with over 16,900 jobs lost last month. Our domestic economy is going backwards, wages growth is amongst the lowest in the country and all we have is political gains by those opposite. What does this mean? It means that Queenslanders are missing out on the opportunity to get ahead. Things are getting tougher for them because Labor is not working. Queenslanders are telling us that they want to see their political leaders step up and outline positive ideas for the state, which is what the LNP opposition has been delivering while the Palaszczuk government has been sitting on its hands. All the government has done is to appoint more commissions and more reviews. We have had review upon review—130 of them.

It has been the LNP that has forced this government into action in so many areas. It was the LNP that first introduced new planning laws to simplify the system and improve our communities. It was the LNP that acted to provide certainty through moving towards four-year fixed parliamentary terms. It was the LNP that introduced changes to provide better health coverage for our dedicated firefighters who contract cancer. It was the LNP that paved the way to improve fire detection in houses following the Slacks Creek fire. It was the LNP that led the charge to reduce the rate of smoking amongst Queenslanders. It was the LNP that introduced changes to improve the state's mental health system and it was the LNP that forced this government to have an inquiry into black lung disease. We put Mason's Law through the parliament to ensure children suspected of being abused and who came to the attention of childcare workers were reported to Child Safety. It is the LNP that has a plan to get Queensland moving again.