



Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Member for Clayfield

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (10.16 am): That speech by the member for Indooroopilly was like being run over by an out-of-control segway. I think he is the only bloke in Queensland who owns one. The shining great initiative of the minister for transport was segways for Queensland. They have never again been seen in Queensland.

Some anniversaries are worth celebrating whereas there are other anniversaries that are best forgotten. Birthdays and weddings are occasions to be celebrated by family and friends. However, there are some anniversaries that are best forgotten, that some want to airbrush out of history, and one of those has arrived. This month is the fifth anniversary of the member for Clayfield's first budget as Queensland treasurer. It was the budget that sent 4,400 health workers, 14,000 public servants and 1,800 nurses and midwives to the scrap heap. It was a budget big on ideology but short on common sense. I can assure members that no-one working in the health system in Queensland will be celebrating that anniversary. It is a time in their lives they would rather forget.

Non-government organisations were stripped of funding. Organisations that had been dutifully serving the Queensland community for years were suddenly in the sights of the member for Clayfield. Such subversive organisations like the Red Cross, the Advanced Breast Cancer Group, the Alzheimer's Association of Queensland, the Amputees and Families Support Group Queensland based in the area of Woodridge, the Arthritis Foundation of Queensland, the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Support Group (Queensland) and the Queensland Asbestos Disease Support Society were all stripped of funding by the member for Clayfield. This is the man who pretends that he wants to be the Premier of Queensland.

This anniversary will not be forgotten by Queenslanders. As much as people want to forget it they cannot forget what the member for Clayfield did and they will not give him the chance again. They know if he gets his hands on the levers of power again he will do exactly the same thing. He has not repudiated what he has done. The only thing he has ever apologised for is for getting the communication wrong, for getting the messaging wrong. He has never admitted fault for anything he has done, including ripping \$100 million out of the health system in three months which resulted in the closure of the Barrett Adolescent Centre. Forget this cant and hypocrisy about an apology that we get from the other side, why does the member for Clayfield not apologise for what he did because Queenslanders have not forgotten what he did to Queensland.