




Speech By  
**Jarrod Bleijie**

**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 February 2018

**ELECTION OF SPEAKER**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.10 am): There are 48 Labor members over there. We get it; we did the maths too. Why couldn't any of the 48 members stand up five minutes ago and second the nomination? There are 48 of them. Any one of them could have stood up and seconded the nomination, but they had to rely on the Katter party to second the nomination. Was it the member for Mulgrave who requested that Robbie Katter second his nomination, or was it the Deputy Premier who refused to second the nomination? I would have loved to have been a fly on that wall. Was it at the request of the member for Mulgrave that he did not want the Deputy Premier to second his nomination? I suspect it is the latter. I suspect the member for Mulgrave did not want the Deputy Premier's hands on this at all, and he went as far away from the Deputy Premier as he could in this chamber and he found the member for—

**An opposition member:** Traeger.

**Mr BLEIJIE:**—Traeger, the new seat of Traeger, to second his nomination. Another thing we have learnt in this place is that, when the Premier backs you, you are doomed. When the Premier kisses you on the cheek and says, 'Good job, pal,' you are done. Just ask the member for Bundamba. Ask the former member for Bundaberg. Ask the member for Sandgate. Every time the member for Inala stands up and backs you, you should be quivering and shaking because you are done. That is what the Premier did in the election campaign. She stood and looked the people of Queensland in the eye and said, 'Curtis Pitt is a great Treasurer. Curtis Pitt will make a fantastic Treasurer in the future,' but now it has all changed. Who made the decision that Curtis Pitt was not going to be a good Treasurer or the greatest Treasurer? Who made the decision that he was not going to be sitting in the Treasurer's seat?

We know it was not the member for Inala. We know that she is only Premier by name. We know the Deputy Premier, who now occupies the Treasury seat and the Deputy Premier's seat, runs the show. We know the Premier is there in name only. We know the Deputy Premier runs the show. The real Premier is sitting in the middle chair. We know that the Premier always acts busy as if she is doing Premier stuff. Every time we are in parliament when we are debating and asking questions the Premier has her BlackBerry out and she is buzzing away. We all know that the phone is turned off but she is still typing away.

This is the reality: this government is divided before we even start this parliamentary session. It is a divided government. It was divided when it was last in government and its division is starting now. For the Deputy Premier to stand up now and wax lyrical about how great the member for Mulgrave is going to be but not second his nomination is a testament to the division and divisiveness we see from this Labor government. Nothing has changed since the last term. Nothing has changed. The Deputy Premier is running the show and we know it.

I now move to the member for Caloundra. I have good things to say about the member for Caloundra. The member for Caloundra is my neighbouring MP—

**Honourable members** interjected.

**The PRESIDING MEMBER:** Order! Honourable members, it is becoming difficult for Hansard, I am sure, to hear and understand the debate.

**Ms Jones** interjected.

**The PRESIDING MEMBER:** I warn the minister and member for Cooper.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Member for Caloundra, what I say to you today is this: you may just get up. There are 48 members sitting over there but I reckon the Deputy Premier might back you today. I reckon the Deputy Premier might back the member for Caloundra.

**An opposition member:** It's a secret ballot.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** It is a secret ballot; you never know. The member for Caloundra is an honourable man. He has served the people of Caloundra and the Sunshine Coast with distinction. He never shies away from fighting the good fight on the Sunshine Coast and for the people of Caloundra. I looked up to the member for Caloundra when I was a Young Liberal and I remember—

**An honourable member** interjected.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** It was not that long ago. I remember the member for Caloundra coming to see me at my home with Sally, my wife, and we had our young child there, and the member for Caloundra said to me that he was intending to run for Caloundra. I could not have supported and backed a better person as the member for Caloundra. The member for Caloundra will make a fantastic Speaker in this parliament. I would ask all honourable members to support you, including the Deputy Premier. I think you are going to get her support, member for Caloundra.