



Speech By  
**Jarrold Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2018

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL**

**Education, Employment and Small Business Committee, Report**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (11.52 am): It is clear that the unions have taken over education in Queensland. Members would be surprised to hear that it is not just the Queensland Teachers' Union but also the Queensland Council of Unions. What else would we expect from the education minister who of course was the state secretary of the Queensland Council of Unions?

This estimates process was an absolute joke from start to finish. Ministers were protected by the chairs. We had elder statesman John Mickel coming out saying that eager backbenchers—I suspect he was talking about the member for Pine Rivers, particularly because he issued his statement straight after the hearing she was on—are trying to protect ministers, who, incidentally I might add, did not need protection from questioning because they should know their portfolio and should be able to answer questions. We had the member for Pine Rivers interfering in all the processes, as was the case on this committee as well.

It was clear from this committee that in terms of the Queensland Council of Unions and the Young Workers Hub program the unions want to come into our school classrooms, indoctrinate kids in Queensland, recruit kids in Queensland and teach kids about the process of activism and union rallies. That is dangerous for Queensland students.

Imagine allowing a union to come in and teach, like the bullies and thugs in the CFMEU do, this is how to protest, this is how to threaten and this is how to be a thug. It is wrong. Under the LNP watch it will never happen. That cannot be said under the Labor government. I asked the minister to rule out not only the recruitment of the kids but also teaching kids about union rallies and protests. She would not rule it out. She would not guarantee it would not happen. In fact, she said, 'No, I am not going to guarantee it.'

We then had the issue of the new school at Dutton Park. The minister walked in with her big announcement for the day: the government is going to build a new school. That was until we produced a press release from the Deputy Premier in February saying that they were going to build a new school at the preferred site in Dutton Park. This was months ago. It had already been released. It had already been put out by the Deputy Premier.

Look at the pork-barrelling happening in the Deputy Premier's electorate—Cross River Rail, the new Dutton Park school, the Gabba expansion and improvements that she talked about yesterday. All the backbenchers in the government and opposition are missing out and she is pork-barrelling her own electorate.

They cannot tell us how much this new school is going to cost. They cannot produce the business case. They cannot say that the police station is going to have to be closed down on that site. There is an autism hub there and they cannot say what is going to happen to the autism hub. Other than knowing there is going to be a new school there, we do not know how much it will cost, we do not know exactly

where it is going to go and we do not know whether we can save the current school oval. We also do not know what impact it is going to have on the enrolments of the successful Brisbane State High School. The government still cannot fix and has not fixed the enrolment and fraud issues at that school.

I turn to Independent Public Schools. This happened under the LNP's watch and will continue to grow under the LNP's watch. We had the minister say two weeks ago that she is going to release the review report once she is briefed. Yesterday she came out saying, 'I have not been briefed yet.' That is absolute rubbish.

How could the minister not be briefed when she got up in front of the media and said, 'There are seven or nine recommendations. It is a great report. I have read it, but I have not been briefed on it. I know nothing about the report other than its contents, its recommendations, its deliberations. I do not know anything about it. Do not ask me about it because I have no idea what is in the report other than that there are nine recommendations, it is a fantastic report and the government will now consider it.' Apparently, sometime this week she is going to tell the Premier about it. You cannot tell me that the Department of Education, in giving that report to the minister, did not attach a briefing to the report. It happened. The minister is misleading everybody about it. The journalists know the minister is misleading.

Then we had complaints from workplace health and safety officers about bullying and thuggery by unions, like the CFMEU, on construction sites. We would think that the minister would stand up for her departmental staff—the ones who are in charge of workplace health and safety and go out to protect workers. The minister refused to take on notice and refused to answer how many complaints departmental staff have put in about thugs and CFMEU behaviour on work sites. The Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations will protect the unions over her own public servants.

We know that workplace health and safety officers are going to get a good gig with the registered training organisations. The unions will now be training workplace health and safety officers. Under this dodgy deal union RTOs will now be training the workplace health and safety officers on site.

The only party in Queensland that has a plan to air-condition every state school classroom is the Liberal National Party. We will air-condition our classrooms. We will make our classrooms cool right around Queensland.