




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2019

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (2.30 pm): Never before have I seen an integrity crisis drag on for so long and no-one take responsibility in government. Never have I seen a Premier so powerless to act against her Deputy Premier. Never have I seen the infighting within Queensland Labor ranks that we have seen since the federal election on 18 May and since it was revealed that the Deputy Premier might not be the working-class politician she would have had us all believe. Never have I seen a Premier set such a low standard for her ministers but take such a high moral ground.

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I hear the Minister for Main Roads interjecting, and who could forget what the CCC called him—'foolish'! We have a 'foolish' minister. The CCC chair said that the Deputy Premier was 'unwise' to ring him on a Sunday morning. The Premier promised openness and transparency, yet we have seen nothing of that in the last 10 weeks. It is clear that this Premier is the weakest Premier in Queensland's history, powerless to stop the activist green Deputy Premier.

The Deputy Premier said that there is a void in the story. There have been nine weeks in which she could have explained it and she has not, and I suspect she did not because every time she gets up and opens her mouth the story changes. First she did not buy the house; it was her husband. Then she found out by text message her husband bought the house for \$700,000. The house just happens to be in walking distance to the Cross River Rail Dutton Park station that nobody wanted. It happens to be in walking distance from the new inner-city school the Deputy Premier has been personally championing. Now we know why. There are 88,640 houses for sale in Queensland today. Why did the Deputy Premier's family company buy that one house? We wonder why! She failed to declare the purchase to her cabinet colleagues. She failed to declare it to the Premier. She failed to disclose it to her Cabinet Budget Review Committee colleagues. She failed to disclose it to parliament. She failed to disclose it to Queenslanders. She has failed, failed, failed.

There is nothing right about this. There has been a stench over this whole sordid affair over the last nine weeks. Even if the CCC comes back tomorrow and says that there is no threshold of corruption, there is only one possible outcome from all of this: the Deputy Premier must resign. The Premier must resign for failing to sack her Deputy Premier. I agree with the member for Logan, who in the last sitting week sang the words, 'Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it's time for Trad to go.' The member for Logan sang it—'Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it's time for Trad to go.' This Premier is the weakest Premier in Queensland's history. The Deputy Premier is the weakest link in this government and she should say goodbye—

Mr POWER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence and he was misleading the House. There was a small protester with a pocket square.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Order! Member for Logan, you do not need to explain. Member for Kawana, the member for Logan has taken offence. I ask you to withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. The Deputy Premier is the weakest link in this government. She should be saying, 'Goodbye; see ya later.' She must resign tomorrow!