




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 18 September 2019

MOTION: ELECTRICITY ASSETS

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (3.03 pm): It is no wonder that the opposition voted against having a debate on this motion. I will read from *Hansard* of 14 June 2018. During the budget debate, the member for Nanango and opposition leader said, 'I am proud—very proud—of the LNP's record in government.' That quote will come back to haunt her, because we know the record of those opposite. I come to one of the central points that has been repeated ad nauseam by those opposite. There are two words that we can be guaranteed never to hear in an LNP speech in the Queensland parliament. Those two words are 'strong choices'. It is like 'Don't mention the war' in *Fawlty Towers*. We will never hear those words from the lips of an LNP member, because they do not want to go back there.

Why do the opposition claim never to have sold assets? It is because the Labor Party stopped them! We defeated them. They had the biggest majority in Australian political history and they went with the biggest asset sale program under Strong Choices. It was a \$70 billion program. The first wave was for \$37 billion. That is an extraordinary amount.

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I move—

That the member for Miller be not further heard.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Order!

Mr Pegg interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Stretton, I was on my feet. You are now warned under the standing orders. Members, thank you for your patience.

Division: Question put—That the member for Miller be not further heard.

AYES, 35:

LNP, 35—Bates, Batt, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Boyce, Crisafulli, Frecklington, Hunt, Janetzki, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lister, Mander, McArdle, McDonald, Mickelberg, Millar, Minnikin, Molhoek, Nicholls, O'Connor, Perrett, Powell, Purdie, Robinson, Rowan, Simpson, Sorensen, Stuckey, Watts, Weir, Wilson.

NOES, 52:

ALP, 47—Bailey, Boyd, Brown, Butcher, Crawford, D'Ath, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Gilbert, Grace, Harper, Healy, Hinchliffe, Howard, Jones, Kelly, King, Lauga, Linard, Lui, Lynham, Madden, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Miller, Mullen, B. O'Rourke, C. O'Rourke, Palaszczuk, Pease, Pegg, Power, Pugh, Richards, Russo, Ryan, Saunders, Scanlon, Stewart, Trad, Whiting.

Grn, 1—Berkman.

KAP, 3—Dametto, Katter, Knuth.

PHON, 1—Andrew.

Resolved in the negative.

Mr SPEAKER: Given that there was still some time allocated for the debate remaining on the clock when the member was interrupted by the moving of the motion, I will allow the member to continue for the time remaining before putting the question.

Mr BAILEY: When it comes to badges of honour, it is a line ball between Des Houghton's irritant of the week or that motion moved by the member for Kawana. I might put it on my letterhead and business card. What an honour.

I come back to the motion. We all know that Strong Choices is a case of do not mention the war with the LNP. They dare not speak its name. We know it was a \$70 billion privatisation program only stopped by the Labor Party. They already spent \$100 million during their term in office despite saying that they would not.

This motion is a great opportunity for the Leader of the Opposition to stand up to Canberra and stand up against asset sales. What we know is that her strategy and the strategy of the LNP is exactly the same as Campbell Newman's. They want to promise everything to everybody. They have no way of paying for it. When or if they get into government then they will do exactly what they want—whatever they promised. They did it before. They will do it again. That is what will happen. They have \$11 billion in unfunded promises and yet they move ridiculous motions like the one they moved yesterday where they are trying to blow—

Mr Lister interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Southern Downs.

Mr BAILEY: They were trying to blow a \$300 million hole in the accounts yesterday and yet they have \$11 billion worth of promises. It does not add up without asset sales. We know that if they get into power that is the first thing they will do. That is exactly what they did before. They promised they would not do it, but that is exactly what they did when they got into government.

We had the contribution earlier from the member for Broadwater, the former member for Mundingburra. Why did he lose his seat? It was because he supported the privatisation of Ergon, Townsville port, the Mount Isa rail line and Powerlink. He lost his seat and he left. That is what he did. He did not stand and the fight in North Queensland.

Mr Lister interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Southern Downs, you are warned under the standing orders. You have made that interjection before and it did not land well.

Mr BAILEY: The member for Broadwater did not stand and fight in his home town. He got the back room to support him to knock off Verity Barton and get a safe seat. He did not stand and fight and face the music in North Queensland because he voted for asset sales. That is the truth. If he gets a chance he will do exactly the same thing to his leader in this place.

We do not just keep our assets in public hands; Labor invests in our assets. Whether it is the Gladstone port, Townsville port, Cairns port, Stanwell, CS Energy, Powerlink, Sunwater, Energy Queensland, we invest in our assets to create jobs to get better outcomes for Queenslanders. We do not have 43 per cent power price rises. They were 43 per cent under you guys. We know what your record is. We know what you will do if you get another chance.

Mr SPEAKER: The minister's comments will be directed through the chair.

Mr BAILEY: Only Labor can be trusted to keep our assets in public hands, to run them properly and to create jobs. Power prices are coming down under this government because of our commitment to assets and to managing them well. It is in their DNA—the LNP did it before and they will do again. They will play the same Newman card—I promise, trust me—and if they get elected you know in your heart they will sell assets.

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: The period for the debate of the motion had expired some time ago, as explained by my previous ruling.