



Speech By  
**Ros Bates**


**MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA**

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Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2019

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance; Aged-Care Facilities**

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.02 pm): Labor's integrity crisis, which started five weeks ago today, has shown that the Palaszczuk Labor government is morally bankrupt. Governments are supposed to work for the people, not their own vested self-interests, and the people of Queensland are seeing Labor's true colours. We have seen integrity scandals involving the Premier, the Deputy Premier, the Minister for Training and Skills Development and now the member for Keppel, and the complete lack of leadership in response has all the hallmarks of the weakest Premier in Queensland history.

According to a recent newspaper poll of almost 12,000 people, 94 per cent of respondents want the Deputy Premier to stand aside. This is a Premier who is a puppet of the unions and controlled by the factions. This is a Premier who has no real power and influence over a government she is supposed to lead. Let us not forget the previous transgressions of Minister Bailey with the mangocube saga, labelled very foolish by the CCC, Minister Miles and the dodgy poll used to justify the renaming of the Lady Cilento children's hospital and Minister de Brenni and the claims of former media adviser Neil Doorley that while in Mr de Brenni's office from October 2018 Mr Doorley alleged he witnessed several instances of junior staff being humiliated and reduced to tears.

It should all make a very interesting Labor conference this weekend. The Left faction is flexing its muscle and showing why the Deputy Premier remains in her position while the contenders are sharpening their knives ready to pounce. We have the member for Woodridge, who lost his seat and then cut and run to safer ground in order to avoid another embarrassing local rebellion. We have the member for Cooper, who will take any other position other than the one she is currently occupying. Even a tilt at City Hall may be on the cards. Then of course there are the laughable efforts from the member for Murrumba, the embattled health minister, who cut and run from Mount Coot-tha miles away to Murrumba in order to save his political bacon and climb the ministerial pecking order. Whilst most Queenslanders would have their fingers crossed that the member for Murrumba is dumped from the health portfolio, with health bungle after bungle for the last 18 months, the only place the member for Murrumba should be going is straight to the backbench.

Speaking of health bungles, Labor's aged-care cover-up is another tragic case of Labor's health minister putting politics ahead of patient care. A media RTI revealed 16 serious complaints in the last year, with allegations of sexual assault and excessive force at 16 state-run aged-care homes, but the minister is refusing to reveal where these complaints have been made. I wrote to the health committee over two weeks ago asking that this issue be included in its aged-care inquiry and I have yet to receive a response. No-one disputes that what happened at Earle Haven was a complete and utter tragedy that should never, ever happen again, but any inquiry into aged care must include state-run facilities, otherwise it is just another Labor cover-up.