



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**  
**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

Record of Proceedings, 12 June 2019

**MOTION**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Federal Election**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (5.00 pm): I move—

That this House—

1. notes the re-election of the Morrison coalition government;
2. notes that almost three out of four Queenslanders voted for anyone but Labor in the recent federal election;
3. notes the following commentary after the election—
  - (a) former Labor president Bob Gibbs saying that the Adani issue had become a disgraceful example of incompetence by government;
  - (b) former Labor minister and party stalwart Robert Swarten saying 'I would be dishonest if I said there wasn't ramifications for the state government';
  - (c) the member for Keppel saying the Palaszczuk government needed 'a hard look at themselves in the mirror';
  - (d) the member for Rockhampton saying he was concerned about losing his seat and that 'people were saying that Labor was about getting rid of the mining industry, getting rid of the jobs';
  - (e) the Minister for Communities backing calls from MPs for more regional representation in the ministry;
  - (f) the former Labor candidate Mike Brunner saying if the Premier can't make a captain's call on Adani the party should consider changing leaders;
  - (g) the member for Maryborough pushing for cabinet changes and saying we need a minister for regional communities;
4. notes the media speculation that the member for Woodridge was plotting a coup against the Treasurer with the assistance of the member for Stafford; and
5. condemns the city-centric Palaszczuk Labor government for being deeply divided, with Labor MPs only caring about their own jobs rather than jobs for Queenslanders.

What a difference a sitting of parliament makes. Who can remember the last sitting day of the previous sitting week? Speaker after speaker, minister after minister, decided to get up and give a paid political announcement about how great a Bill Shorten government would be and how much they would support it. The Premier said, 'We need Bill Shorten as our next prime minister.' The Treasurer said, 'The Palaszczuk Labor government is looking forward to the election of the Bill Shorten Labor government this Saturday.' The member for Woodridge said, 'There is a better way for Australia: a strong, united Shorten Labor government. I urge all Australians to make the right choice for Queenslanders and support a federal Shorten Labor government.'

The member for Cooper said, 'A vote for the Morrison government means a vote for Peter Dutton.' Yes, it does mean a vote for Peter Dutton. The member for Stafford said, 'There is only one answer on Saturday, and that is Labor.' Of course, the Minister for Transport and Main Roads continued his love affair with Bill Shorten by mentioning Bill Shorten six times in his speech, endorsing a Shorten Labor government. What a difference a sitting of parliament makes. The people of Queensland did not listen to this Labor government. The people of Queensland rejected its endorsement. One in four

Queenslanders voted for the Labor Party. Three out of four Queenslanders decided to vote for anybody but the Labor Party. For the first time in decades, the Queensland Labor Party has one Senator. That is what the Queensland public thought about the endorsement of the Australian Labor Party in Queensland.

What has happened since? The Sunday after the election the Premier and the Deputy Premier were asked, 'Did this have any ramifications for Queensland?' 'No, none at all. They are all federal issues.' Then, 48 hours later, after the absolute infighting, the implosion coming from regional Queensland, we heard members who have never spoken a word over the last couple of years—the members for Rockhampton, Keppel and Mackay—coming out of the woodwork. Everybody asks, 'Who are these people?' They heard loud and clear from their constituents in regional Queensland saying, 'We have had a gutful; we are fed up.'

The Premier held one of the most embarrassing press conferences I have heard in my time in parliament and treated Queenslanders like idiots, like they were born yesterday. She said that she was fed up and had a gutful of her own government processes. Then the fighting and leadership speculation started. There is panic in the Labor government as its members start trying to work out what they will do. How will they recover from a 26 per cent primary vote?

We know they hate us, but the factions hate each other more. There was speculation that the member for Woodridge was doing the numbers with the member for Stafford. The member for Stafford, the no numbers man, was ringing around to get that support. The infighting went on and on. One of the great things of this election is that Peter Dutton was returned in the seat of Dickson. He fought the GetUps, the unions and the Labor Party and came back with an increased majority, because he is one of the best ministers in the federal government. Then we had the hapless Treasurer whose budget is so bad she had to find a diversionary tactic. When she got up yesterday she said that she would change the rules of land tax if the federal government changed the GST. I said that it is extortion. That is not an expletive or a swear word: that is a true fact. This Treasurer has the runs on the board with regard to that type of behaviour. Queenslanders will not be fooled. The leadership credibility of the Premier and the Deputy Premier is shot.