




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

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MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST

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

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.17 pm): I congratulate the member for Hinkler on his re-election just recently. What a bunch of fakes we have that make up this Queensland government—people who proclaim to be the champions of the workers, people who claim to come from the working class. Most of them have not had a real job their whole lives. They have been brought up—

Mr HARPER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at that and ask that he withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Member for Thuringowa, I do not believe that that was directed at you, so there is no point of order.

Mr MANDER: The majority of those on that side of the House have never had a real job in their lives. They have been brought up in the trade union movement or through some political office and do not know the pressures that everyday Queenslanders face. There is no bigger king of the fakes than the Deputy Premier and Treasurer, the so-called champion of the working class—somebody who owns a multimillion dollar property in West End, somebody who owns five properties that we know of, somebody who sends her children to prestigious private schools, somebody who is a shareholder in a company that directly benefits from government contracts last year to the tune of \$5.4 million.

We on this side of the House do not begrudge anybody success, but what people cannot stand is when you pretend to be somebody you are not, and that is what the Deputy Premier and the Treasurer is doing. How dare she pretend to be a champion of the people. How dare she pretend that she knows the pressures that everyday Queenslanders face. The Deputy Premier has become what she detests.

On that side of the House the Labor government is in total disarray because of the behaviour of the Deputy Premier and Treasurer. We now see them jostling for position. At the moment the member for Woodridge and the member for Cooper, from the right faction, are revelling in the Deputy Premier and Treasurer's discomfort more than we are on this side of the House. We watched them audition today. We are not too sure about the member for Cooper because it seems as though she might jump this sinking ship to take up the role of Lord Mayor. Another Lord Mayor Jones! We have had one already and we could have another one in the future. Believe it or not, the member for Springwood has been touted as Treasurer, and the member for Waterford, who very, very conveniently sits right behind the current Attorney-General, wants to be the next Attorney-General. There is speculation about the member for Toohey, who, it was said, is going to become the Legal Services Commissioner. I wonder why? I wonder what will happen with that vacancy when it occurs.

How can people relate to everyday Queenslanders when they holiday in luxurious accommodation at Whistler? I am not sure who is in charge of the roster over there. Anna Bligh, the Deputy Premier and Treasurer, and the minister and member for Waterford have stayed there as well. I wonder who is next. Whose turn it is to go and stay at Whistler? I am not sure how that works.

Mrs Frecklington: The mangocube. Get an email!

Mr MANDER: The member for Miller must be feeling very, very hurt at the moment—or has he been there and not declared it? Those who have been around for a while have never, ever seen the disunity that is so open in this Labor government at the moment. There is one thing they normally do well: they hate each other more than they hate us, but they hide it from everybody else. Not anymore! It has come out. There is open warfare. You see factions of the cabinet meeting secretly. There is no unity whatsoever because they are led by someone who will go down as the weakest premier in the history of the Queensland parliament. Grow a backbone, Premier, and show some leadership!