



Speech By  
**Jarrold Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 May 2020

**MOTION**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Integrity**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (5.56 pm): The Liberal National Party in Queensland will not be lectured to by the Labor Party on integrity, accountability and transparency. Labor would have us believe that we should just forget the last five years. Labor wants us to forget the last five years. Forget about the member for Miller—the mangocube, the secret emails with union officials, the Crime and Corruption Commission investigation calling the member for Miller foolish, changing laws because of it. Let's not forget all the other integrity scandals that we have had.

The member for Cooper said that she had five pages of issues she wanted to read out. I can advise the House that we were very limited with our one-page and 249-word motion. We know that if we talked about all the integrity scandals over the past five years of Premier Palaszczuk's government there would be many more pages.

To lose a deputy premier and treasurer in the middle of an economic and health crisis is unprecedented. Those opposite would have us forget it. They would give the new Deputy Premier the role and think that we will just move on and forget about all this. It does matter. When the people go to the ballot box on 31 October, we will keep reminding them about all of these integrity issues.

The member for Sandgate lectures us about integrity, yet he was the minister who stood in this House and changed the electoral law—the process of how people vote in this state—with 17 minutes notice. The minister lectures us on integrity and accountability! He was the leader of the House who came up with this little motion, with 17 minutes notice, to abolish compulsory preferential voting in Queensland. He changed the electoral laws without any consultation. Then he comes in here and lectures us on integrity and accountability.

The education minister is mentioned in the motion. She has been very quiet in the last 10 days since the Crime and Corruption Commission launched a full-scale investigation into the appointment of a principal to a school in the electorate of South Brisbane. For days the education minister put out a little statement here and a little statement there but did not face the press. Then she said, 'It's nothing to do with me. Members of parliament have no powers to intervene in school principal selection processes.' She said that it was all operational. Then we reminded the education minister that the member for South Brisbane had doxed her in and reminded the House that she had spoken to the education minister. Then on Tuesday the education minister said, 'I think in passing I may have had a conversation.'

Was it one of those conversations the former member for Cairns, Rob Pyne, had in passing? Do members remember those little conversations? No-one has a conversation with the member for South Brisbane in passing. It is at the direction of the member for South Brisbane. There is no 'little conversation'. I see the member for Logan smiling. He knows exactly what I am talking about. No-one has a little conversation in passing with the member for South Brisbane—never. If this were not so serious it would be laughable.

We could look at the Premier's former chief of staff currently subjected to a CCC investigation. We could look at the mangocube affair that the member for Miller would have us forget. The member for McConnel talks about air conditioning. As mentioned in the motion, who could forget, when asked at a press conference about completing the installation of air conditioning at only 100 schools when she was meant to complete it at 300, her saying, 'No, the Premier never said that.' Then Channel 7 reminded the Minister for Education, 'We actually have the Premier on film saying that.' She then said, 'Oh well, it is out of context.' Air-conditioning units were promised to be delivered by the school holidays at 300 schools and they were not.

The point is that Queensland is heading in the wrong direction. We are the unemployment capital of the nation. We are the bankruptcy capital of the nation. We have the highest unemployment rate in the country. This all falls under Premier Palaszczuk's watch. She is the leader of the team. She is the head of the government. The only way we will fix these issues and sort out these integrity issues is by voting for an LNP government on 31 October 2020. That is when the grown-ups will be put in charge of fixing these issues.

*(Time expired)*