




Speech By
Hon. Grace Grace

MEMBER FOR MCCONNEL

Record of Proceedings, 20 May 2020

MOTION

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Integrity

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations) (5.30 pm): I rise to speak against this motion. It is a sad day because we have heard nothing from those opposite about the need for parliament to sit as we are in a pandemic crisis and we have to be held accountable on the issues that are happening during these unprecedented times. All we get from those opposite is a bunch of allegations, innuendoes, imputations and inferences. There is no policy on how we get out of this. This motion condemns the Premier, Annastacia Palaszczuk, in her role.

In this unprecedented crisis, never before seen on such a worldwide scale, those opposite condemn the Premier of this state, who, in the words of the member for Stafford, has saved thousands of lives when compared to the UK alone, for the actions that we took as a government. I join the Deputy Premier in saying that those opposite have had all this time on their hands and the only thing that they can come up with is a list of integrity issues—a bogus list, I might add. It is absolute gutter politics.

Some of the issues they have put forward in this motion are issues that are already under consideration. I am proud that in this country a person is deemed innocent until proven guilty. Everyone deserves their right to be heard. Natural justice has been thrown out the window because of the disgraceful accusations that are being made by those opposite.

I do not want to repeat the accusations contained within this motion—they are so disgraceful—but let me mention the member for Miller and mangocube. The last I heard he was cleared and there was nothing there. He is back as a minister. Within this motion is an integrity crisis about someone who was completely cleared by the CCC. Those opposite are employing gutter politics by bringing it up again. When those opposite were in government they talked about Labor using the CCC as a political football for political muckraking. They have become the absolute masters, let me tell members, to use the words of the member for Kawana. He was going to change the law so it could not be done. Those opposite probably knew that they were on their way to a hiding in the last election because they hid him away. No-one saw him. He was the worst Attorney-General we had ever seen. They knew they were sliding so they did not change the laws because they knew they were going to use them for their disgraceful mudslinging. All those opposite do is throw mud and muckrake. It is all they are good at.

Turning to the accusation against the member for Capalaba in relation to baseless allegations in a letter to the Speaker, how many letters have been sent by those opposite to the Speaker containing baseless allegations? Talk about the pot calling the kettle black. What an absolutely ridiculous notion.

The next matter refers to myself, the member for McConnel, promising air conditioning. You bet I did! We have done more than 300 schools. Every classroom, every staffroom and every library has been air-conditioned. We are getting quotes on the remaining 330 schools and we are at 100 already. We will install air conditioning. Whether our commitment in November was to air-condition or put on solar panels, we are delivering in spades. The member for Currumbin said she would like to see air

conditioning in her school. I want to give her a bit of a lesson. How many schools were air-conditioned under Campbell Newman's reign while the member for Surfers Paradise was the minister for education? None! How many schools have been air-conditioned in Queensland in the past six months? Over 300, that is how many! We are powering ahead, as I said, with a number of contracts in this area.

The next matter is promises made by the member for Keppel. Is that like the promises those opposite made to the public servants that they had nothing to fear and then sacked 14,000 of them? You want to talk about integrity issues, there is not enough time!