




Speech By
Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR OODGEROO

Record of Proceedings, 20 May 2020

MOTION

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Integrity

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Oodgeroo—LNP) (5.24 pm): I rise to support the motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition. The motion outlines a litany of integrity failures of this government—whether that be the Premier, found guilty of contempt of the parliament; the former deputy premier, who resigned under another corruption cloud; the new Deputy Premier behind the Lady Cilento hospital dodgy poll; or various other ministers and backbenchers outlined in this motion. Queenslanders and Redlanders deserve better than what they are getting from the Palaszczuk government. This motion refers to the inappropriate behaviour of Labor MPs in the Redlands, specifically the members for Capalaba and Springwood. Sadly, this is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the bad conduct of local Labor MPs and this government in Brisbane's south.

With respect to the member for Capalaba, to start with he made baseless allegations in a letter to the Speaker which drew a warning from the Speaker of the parliament about the veracity of information provided by the member. Then there was the time he was forced to apologise in the parliament for doctoring information to make counterfeit election candidate materials. There was also the bogus petition calling on the government to upgrade the Gateway Motorway on-ramp after decisions had already been taken. Further, the member worked with the roads minister, Minister Bailey, to change the designation of the intersection at Shore and Wellington streets in Cleveland from dangerous to safe just so they did not have to upgrade it. Then the member for Capalaba claimed to deliver an emergency warning SMS service for the Redlands. He was happy to declare on social media 'Don delivers'—only to be outed by Mayor Karen Williams that he had made no contribution to it at all, and I table his posts and her response.

Tabled paper: Extract, undated, from the Twitter account of the member for Capalaba, Mr Don Brown MP, in relation to emergency warning SMS service for Redland City [\[791\]](#).

The mayor said—

We now look forward to you providing funding to support this council initiative funded by ratepayers. Then you can say you have delivered a little bit of it.

When we consider the behaviour of the member for Springwood, Mick de Brenni, we see more of the true character of this Labor government. The motion specifically refers to the member for Springwood breaching government advertising standards, but there is more. In the previous parliament he was accused of bullying the member for Cairns, a disabled man in a wheelchair, while in the chamber. A former Labor media adviser and insider made claims about how Minister de Brenni treated his staff. Then there is the bullying and intimidation by Minister de Brenni's campaign team of CFMEU union thugs of LNP candidate Julie Talty in the 2017 election campaign. It is interesting that also in the recent Logan City Council mayoral and councillor campaigns conservative council candidates like young 20-year-old Jacob Heremaia had their signs and trailers regularly vandalised, violently smashed and stolen while Labor-leaning councillors and mayoral candidates did not experience that. I take a moment to congratulate new Councillor Jacob Heremaia for winning against these dirty tactics.

Interestingly, there was another de Brenni recently running in an election campaign for Logan City Council mayor. That de Brenni campaign for mayor was accused of stealing the signs of competitors in the Logan City Council elections, but Mr de Brenni denied it was him. It was interesting that TV news footage caught Mr de Brenni—

Mr SPEAKER: Member, the motion refers to a particular individual, not members of the individual's family, so I would ask you to come back to relevance as to the points in the motion as put forward to the House.

Dr ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I make the point that in terms of the Logan City Council area there are Labor candidates or Labor-leaning candidates who are participating in actions that show a lack of integrity. They have been caught out on television lying—

Ms GRACE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I really do raise the issue of relevance. I was going to do it before you made a particular ruling, but I think it is still down that path—relevance to the—

Mr SPEAKER: I will take care of that; thank you for your point of order. Member, I ask you to be relevant to the motion as put forward to the House. I am listening carefully to your contribution.

Dr ROBINSON: It is interesting to note patterns of behaviour of Labor MPs and Labor council candidates in various parts of Queensland. Today I call on Minister de Brenni to give assurances that no such bullying, intimidation, theft and vandalism will occur in his 2020 campaign like what happened in his 2017 campaign and that LNP candidate Kirrily Boulton will not be subjected to such thuggish behaviour. Will Minister de Brenni commit to a clean, bullying-free campaign this time?

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: The allegations that the member for Oodgeroo has raised in this contribution bear no relationship to the matters that are contained within the motion and they do not bear any relationship with any of the other broad range of matters which he could spend his time contributing to the debate on.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Oodgeroo, as I have said, I have been listening to your contribution. I believe the matters put forward in the motion relate to the state government of Queensland, not the council arena nor a particular party. Whilst a party may be in government, it does not necessarily relate to all aspects of that, nor the avenues related to individuals named. I ask you to be relevant to the points in the motion as put or I will ask you to resume your seat.

Dr ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Then there is the member for Redlands, Kim Richards, who sent out an Australia Day email from a parliamentary email address and in it she asked them to donate to the Redlands and the fundraising link directed contributions straight to the Labor Party coffers despite it being inappropriate to use parliamentary resources in this way.

In conclusion, Redlanders and Queenslanders deserve better and can get it by voting for their local LNP candidate on 31 October: Henry Pike, Bev Walters, Kirrily Boulton and myself on the Redlands Coast.