




Speech By  
**Tim Mander**

**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 June 2020

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES INDUSTRY (PORTABLE LONG SERVICE LEAVE) BILL**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11.27 am): I rise to speak on this bill. In particular, I rise to speak about the so-called wages freeze by the Palaszczuk government. The Palaszczuk government has treated Queensland's hardworking public servants with absolute contempt. We have had the Premier change her position, change her mind, on at least three or four occasions over the last couple of months which has caused confusion and uncertainty for Queensland's public servants.

Most of us on this side of the House—and I am sure on the government side as well—have had their electoral offices inundated by public servants, police, firefighters, ambos, nurses and teachers who just cannot believe that a Labor government would do this to them. This is a sleight of hand trick. There is no budget repair at all in the announcements that have been made by the Palaszczuk government and the details in this bill. Let us not forget that this is after 51 pages of amendments came through yesterday without proper examination. The committees have not been able to look at this and ask the questions that need to be asked. This is typical of the contempt that the Palaszczuk government treats this parliament with, as mentioned by the Manager of Opposition Business this morning.

Because of this confusion, because of the contempt that the public servants have been treated with, because of the hard work that our public servants have been doing, particularly over the last three months, because of those frontline people who in lots of ways have risked their own lives for Queenslanders and because an agreement is an agreement, the LNP will be opposing Labor's wage freeze for our frontline public servants.

It is important to know that one of the reasons there has been confusion is there has been no budget. Without a budget they have no plan for the future and these decisions cannot be examined properly. We say without any doubt whatsoever that we back those public servants who have entered into these agreements that are legally binding with goodwill. The only way that this government can rescind those is to come in here with legislation. We will also be attempting to introduce legislation to freeze the salary of members of parliament over the next 12 months. Knowing that people are doing it tough, we need to send a signal to the community that members of parliament should not be included in any salary increases, that our pays should be frozen.

We will be continuing to oppose that. We will be continuing to communicate to our constituents that the LNP believes that agreements entered into in good faith and that are legally binding should not be rescinded as the Palaszczuk government is attempting to do. This is a government that is supposed to be the friend of the worker. We can see their true colours now; they have treated public servants with contempt and so we will be voting against those clauses.