




Speech By
Daniel Purdie

MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

Record of Proceedings, 1 December 2021

MOTION

Bundaberg, Health Services

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (5.07 pm): It is interesting to get up to speak after the health minister, who started her contribution—

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There should be five minutes on the clock for the debate.

Mrs D'Ath interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): I will take some advice.

Mrs D'Ath: I am pretty sure I was given three minutes.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members! When I am taking advice it is not an opportunity to interject.

Mr PURDIE: As I was saying, it is interesting to speak after the health minister, who started her contribution by saying that the people of Bundaberg will not be fooled. However, what we are seeing continually in this House from a tired and arrogant third-term Palaszczuk Labor government is not only its incompetence to manage health but its deceitfulness. Two weeks ago I stood right here at this same time highlighting how the people of Caloundra had been hoodwinked by this government prior to the election—another marginal seat it wanted to win. It stood up and promised the people of Caloundra something, knowing at the time that was never going to happen.

Here we are now, two weeks later, talking about Bundaberg. The member for Burnett just spoke about a Facebook page. I have a copy of that here.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you tabling that document?

Mr PURDIE: I am certainly tabling it.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well then, table it.

Mr PURDIE: I am more than happy to. I have a Facebook post here where the member for Bundaberg announced that his top priority was to build a level 5 hospital in Bundaberg.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Stop using it as a prop and table the document.

Tabled paper: Extract, dated 26 August 2020, from the Facebook page of the member for Bundaberg, Mr Tom Smith MP, regarding delivery of level 5 of the Bundaberg Hospital [2032](#).

Mr PURDIE: He might think he is clever because now, post-election, there is no sign of that Facebook post. It has disappeared. He might think it is clever that that has disappeared, but I can tell members that, unfortunately for the member for Bundaberg, there is more evidence. There is evidence here, which I am also happy to table, in the form of a brochure that was handed out in Bundy, again

stating it is a top priority and a commitment fully funded from the Labor government to build a level 5 category hospital in Bundaberg. I am happy to tender that evidence as exhibit No. 1, or table it, whatever you prefer, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Unite and Recover: Labor's plan for QLD jobs' [2033](#).

But there is more. If this health minister wants to talk about the people of Bundy not being fooled, well, I can tell members they are not going to be fooled by this current member. I also have a letter delivered to every house in Bundaberg prior to the last election with a picture of the Premier and the member for Bundaberg, again stating that the top priority—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, I have asked you to table documents and not use them as a prop. If you do that again I will warn you.

Mr NICHOLLS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There is no obligation on a member to table a document until they are ready to table it. I understand your ruling in respect to the use of them as props, which I respect, but I do not believe it is up to the Speaker to demand a document be tabled.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will take some advice. My ruling does relate to the use of that document as a prop. The member has indicated on several occasions when he has done something similar that he would table it so I am simply asking him to follow that practice. I would ask the member to stop using documents as props. If you intend to table them, table them.

Mr PURDIE: I am happy to table this as evidence against the member for Bundaberg.

Tabled paper: Letter, undated, to householders from Senator Murray Watt, titled 'State election—postal voting information' [2034](#).

And evidence of him fooling the people of Bundaberg prior to the election where he again promised the delivery of a new level 5 hospital in Bundaberg. They are now trying to destroy the evidence. They can try to delete it from Facebook, but I have already tabled a copy, and we have signed letters that have gone to every house in Bundaberg promising the same thing. That takes me to the deceitfulness of this government once again on consultation. Two weeks ago we spoke about the dodgy consultation being undertaken at Caloundra for the youth jail. Similarly what we have here in Bundy is the government announcing an expression of interest where 40 sites were identified, I am led to believe, as a proposed place for this hospital. Apparently people in Bundaberg are scratching their heads over the site that was picked. I understand it is on the outskirts of town, it is on a highway and it is beside a gun club. In the current budget there was no money for the land for this new hospital.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr PURDIE: That is exactly right. They might have more time in the ambulance to deal with them before they get to the hospital. Apparently the council was not even involved in this consultation until after the government had selected a site. They have selected a site that, from all reports, is not necessarily appropriate and there was only \$15 million in the budget for the land. It turns out the site was already owned by the state government. It has been zoned for environmental protection. This is a case study of how this government does business. Their consultation is a sham. It is deceptive, as we saw at Caloundra. Only two weeks ago we spoke about Caloundra and how they went out to public consultation while the renovation was already happening to convert that watch house to a jail.

The people of Bundy will not be deceived. They have long memories. A succession of Labor governments in this state have failed the people of Bundy. We only need to think back to 2003, 2004 and 2005 and Dr Jayant Patel. It was members of the Labor government who initially put their heads in the sand when whistleblowers were turning up in droves to report that staff at the time were hiding patients from that doctor who we now know had already lost his surgical certificate in New York before he got here and was later charged with the manslaughter of a number of people. That brings me to the current day. It is the opposition that is highlighting this information from whistleblowers. What Bundy needs is better leadership and representation. What I am saying today is bring back Dave Batt.