




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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MOTION

Coronavirus, Palaszczuk Labor Government Modelling

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (6.01 pm): There is no substitute for volume over content, judging by the member for Kawana's contribution! He has that amateur thespian title absolutely wrapped up in gold. I read this motion and I had to ask myself a question: why would they move this motion?

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. The member is not being provocative and the member is not adopting a provocative tone of voice, so I would ask that the member be heard with respect.

Mr BAILEY: The only reason I could think of for moving such a motion is that the LNP, after 20 months of a global pandemic, still have not worked out how we have been so successful in Queensland. They just do not believe it. Let's look at the numbers around the world. There have been 718,000 deaths in the US.

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr BAILEY: The person interjecting could not even adhere to health orders. That is the record of those opposite. There have been 451,000 deaths in India. There have been more than 4½ million deaths around the world and there have been seven deaths in Queensland. What does that tell you? It tells you that the leadership of this state is one of the best in the world. That deserves some respect, but it does not get any respect from those perennial members on the opposition benches. While we have performed in a world-leading manner in this pandemic, those opposite have the mortgage on losing elections and being in opposition. They have won one election since 1986, and it shows in a debate like this.

We went to an election last year in the middle of a global pandemic, and the people endorsed our management of this pandemic. What did we get from those opposite? They called 64 times for us to open the borders. The Leader of the Opposition said that, effectively, our COVID response was like putting a doona over your head and sucking your thumb. That is the level of sophistication the member for Broadwater is bringing to public debate in this state. It is pretty pathetic. Not content with deserting his home town of Townsville and going for a safe seat with his mates in LNP headquarters down on the Gold Coast, that is the kind of contribution we get from him. Likewise, it has been only six days since the resignation, after a couple of months, of the LNP state director. Tony Eyres lasted months. Those opposite are a dysfunctional, shambolic rabble. Can you imagine what would have happened if they had been in power during the pandemic? I dread to think what would have happened. It sickens me to think what would have happened.

Mr Nicholls: See what happened in Victoria.

Mr BAILEY: I take that interjection from the member for Clayfield. The outbreak in Victoria has been identified as coming from the outbreak in Sydney, because Gladys went too late. She did not go short and sharp; she mismanaged it and she botched it, just like Scott Morrison botched the vaccine

rollout and botched fit-for-purpose quarantine. Here we have members on the other side of the House running cover for the worst Prime Minister since William McMahon. That is what he is. He has been worked out. While we in Queensland are open, with an open economy and doing things relatively normally, there are 25,600 people with COVID infections across the border. How many do we have? We have very few. We have a total of just over 2,000 since the beginning of the pandemic.

If those opposite want to keep bashing their heads against the wall and enjoying the bleeding, I say knock yourselves out. It has worked for you for the last 30 years. Keep going. We love that. Why do you not start applying yourselves when people's lives are at stake? That is the question I ask. People's lives are still at stake. Those opposite are not running decent policy and not thinking about things for themselves. They do not think about anything for themselves; they are just running federal government intervention.

This modelling is subject to national cabinet. You cannot hide from science. Seven deaths is the reality. We have led the world on this. We get these nonsense motions when there is a press conference every day with the CHO, the Premier, the health minister and the Deputy Premier fully explaining the issues of the day. What a joke the opposition is.

(Time expired)