



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Furner**


**MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE**

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Record of Proceedings, 27 May 2021

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Beef 2021**

 **Hon. ML FURNER** (Ferry Grove—ALP) (Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities) (2.46 pm): I am an Aries. I thrive on competition. Unfortunately, from those opposite there is little competition, particularly when it comes to the shadow agriculture minister, the member for Gympie. To be fair to him, to be shadow minister he has to keep pace with me and all the other members of the Palaszczuk government.

In a contribution last sitting week, as usual the member for Gympie delivered a bizarre diatribe. He reflected on Beef Australia 2021. He started with a positive contribution. I concur with his views on that. However, he digressed into the typical LNP language only Neanderthals would understand. That was followed by his typical trait of immature name calling.

Let us not forget that when the Premier was talking about her attendance at Beef Australia, the member for Gympie interjected claiming that he was meeting with real people. For the record, the Premier, the Deputy Premier, the Treasurer, the Minister for Water, other ministers—in fact, nearly half the cabinet were there—assistant ministers and many backbenchers were talking with the Bryce Camms of the world, the Terry Nolans, the David Footes, the Hugh Killens, the Will Wilsons, the Georgie Somersets and the John Berrys. They are the champions of the beef industry—the names that those opposite cannot bring themselves to comment on.

I ask the member for Gympie: are these people not real people? What is the beef with the LNP? Are these people not into beef? These are the people whom those opposite purport to represent.

**Mr Mickelberg** interjected.

**Mr FURNER:** Like the member for Buderim, they fail every day.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Order! Pause the clock. Minister, resume your seat. Member for Buderim, you are on a warning.

**Mr FURNER:** The Premier referred last sitting week to no LNP members being present at Beef Australia. I would like to table for the record a tweet that was on the member for Gympie's—

*Tabled paper:* Extract, dated 11 May 2021, from the Twitter account of the member for Gympie, Mr Tony Perrett MP, regarding the Premier's attendance at various events [726](#).

**Ms SIMPSON:** Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The minister is misleading the House. I saw him walking through the food court at Beef Week.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Pause the clock! Resume your seat, member for Maroochydore. I did not call you to take your point of order. That is disrespectful to the chair. What is your point of order?

**Ms SIMPSON:** The minister is misleading the House and offensive. I ask that he withdraw. There were ample members of the opposition who were at Beef Week.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Maroochydore, the tone and the way that was delivered seems to me that it was a frivolous exercise, so I am going to warn you and I am not going to take your point of order.

**Mr FURNER:** The stakes are high when it comes to those opposite having to indicate that they were even there. On the evidence I have just tabled, a tweet was put up by the member for Gympie—

**Mr Millar** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order, member for Gregory!

**Mr FURNER:**—three days after the event had closed. One has to wonder whether they were there or not.

**Mr MICKELBERG:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. What is your point of order?

**Mr MICKELBERG:** The minister is misleading the House. Comments have been made to—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** It is a not a point of order. If you think someone is misleading the House, there is a process to follow in relation to that. Have you got anything else to add?

**Mr MICKELBERG:** I will be writing to the Speaker.

**Mr Millar** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Member for Gregory, you are on a warning.

**Mr FURNER:** No wonder the regions are turning their back on the Nationals and those opposite and are turning to Labor. That is why we picked up five regional seats at the last election and the rest of them are in our sights for 2024.

*(Time expired)*