



Speech By Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 23 February 2021

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) (2020-2021) BILL

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Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)

Appropriation (2020-2021) Bill

Education, Employment and Training Committee, Report

Mr MANDER (Everton—LNP) (4.24 pm): I think I have about 2½ minutes. That is ironic in that during the estimates process I had only 15 minutes to talk about racing because of the truncated aspect of the estimates hearings. So we did not get a chance to look at those issues that are important to the raising industry—that is, the state of the Eagle Farm track and what is going to happen in the future with regard to that track and the wagering tax and how much of that is going back into the industry. People are constantly talking about the industry not getting their fair share at the moment. We did get a chance quickly to talk about the size of the Racing Queensland bureaucracy and whether the industry is getting value for their investment and also about the Martin inquiry into the inhumane treatment of horses and the progress that is happening there. Those issues are incredibly important, but the opposition got around 15 minutes to talk about those issues which simply was not enough. I cannot do them justice now.

Mr Stevens interjected.

Mr MANDER: I take that interjection from the member for Mermaid Beach. They do not care about racing and the racing industry knows that. They know that very clearly. In the short time that I have been the shadow minister I have been getting that feedback very clearly. I cannot do justice to those issues now as they deserve.

While I am on my feet, I want to speak about an issue that I heard the member for Theodore speak about, and that is the issue of independent public schools. The softening process has begun. In today's paper we saw a leak of some so-called rorting of the system. This will be a complete fabrication by the Labor government as they start the softening process to get rid of IPS in our state—one of the great initiatives of the LNP government which is so embraced by our state school principals and their communities, and this mob will get rid of it.

Mr Stevens interjected.

Mr MANDER: Again, I take the interjection from the member for Mermaid Beach. The unions hate it. The unions hate it because they have less control over what happens in schools. The principals and communities that have IPS love it. They want to keep it. They want to make sure that they can continue to have the authority and the delegations that they have at the moment to make the education system better for our students. This mob will get rid of it on philosophical grounds, not on outcomes, because that is what they do.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Member for Everton, that concludes the debate.