




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 30 March 2022

MOTION

Federal Budget

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (4.22 pm): I am minded to move an extension of time, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Opposition members: Please do.

Mr DICK: There is only so much—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): The motion was not put so there is no need to engage in debate.

Mr DICK: There is only so much I can subject members of this House to. I am very proud to rise in the House this afternoon to support the motion moved by the Premier. As I said this morning, the Morrison government's budget has failed Queensland and it fails Queenslanders. It is a budget for the next six weeks and not the next four years. It is designed to save the political bacon of the Prime Minister and does not set a clear vision for the future of our nation. Just like Scott Morrison abandoned Queensland during the floods, he has left our state high and dry on health, infrastructure and energy funding. Just as Queenslanders know the member for Broadwater is a phony, they know the Prime Minister is a phony because Queenslanders can pick a phony a mile off.

Queenslanders, to give them their due, put their faith in Scott Morrison in 2019 and he has taken that faith and belief and sold Queenslanders out. They knew that Scott Morrison was a 'ruthless, backstabbing autocrat', a 'bully' with 'no moral compass' and 'no conscience' who was 'not fit to be Prime Minister' long before he was called those things by one of his closest colleagues Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells in the Australian Senate. This is someone who has worked alongside the Prime Minister in the Australian parliament since 2007—for 15 years. She calls him—someone who knows him the best—a 'ruthless, backstabbing autocrat', a 'bully' with 'no moral compass'—

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. I am sorry to interrupt, Treasurer. Member for Everton, that is unparliamentary language. I would ask you to withdraw.

Mr MANDER: I withdraw.

Mr DICK:—and 'no conscience' who was 'not fit to be Prime Minister'. I will tell members this much—

Mr O'Connor interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. I had just asked that that be withdrawn. Member for Bonney, you can go on a warning and withdraw the language.

Mr O'CONNOR: I withdraw.

Mr DICK: They are happy to give it, but they cannot take it about their Prime Minister—a 'ruthless, backstabbing autocrat', a 'bully' with 'no moral compass' and 'no conscience'; 'not fit to be the Prime Minister'. This is from someone who knows him the best. Queenslanders know that as well.

When South-East Queensland was hit by the floods, our government leapt into action. Some 7,800 homes and commercial buildings were damaged. Countless lives were up-ended. Our government announced a \$771 million support package. What have we heard from the Prime Minister? Nothing! He cannot take the step to support our people at a time of crisis—simple action that would help flood-proof our state. There is nothing.

The cuts to health are in the DNA of the LNP. It does not matter whether one is in Brisbane or in Canberra, when it comes to health care and public health care they cut and cut again. That is what we saw in the budget last night—a cut next financial year and then cuts over the forward estimates. That is cuts on top of what they already promised just four months ago. They are cutting again in their budget.

If members thought they were dangerous on health care, they are downright dismal when it comes to Queensland housing. Scott Morrison is so out of touch with the stresses that face Queenslanders that this morning he told people struggling to find a place to rent to simply 'buy a house'. I thought there was no-one lower than Joe Hockey who said in 2014 that poor people do not drive cars. To Joe Hockey's credit, he apologised, but Scott Morrison does not know the meaning of the word 'sorry' and even if he did say it he would not mean it and he would not believe it. We simply cannot trust a single word that comes out of the Prime Minister's mouth.

I will tell members this much: when it comes to the election in May Queenslanders have worked out this phony. Some 75 per cent of Queensland seats in the House of Representatives—23 out of 30—are held by lazy LNP federal MPs on fat margins who have never delivered anything for this state. They are not delivering anything in this budget. They are not delivering anything for health care. They are not delivering anything for housing. They are not delivering anything for flood recovery. Queenslanders know a phony when they see a phony. That is exactly what this Prime Minister is. He is a complete phony and will be judged by the people of Queensland and the Commonwealth in the election in May. Bring on the federal election.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The House will come to order. Treasurer, there was some unparliamentary language used. Even if you are quoting it we do not allow it. I would ask you to withdraw.

Mr DICK: I withdraw.