




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR JORDAN

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Federal Labor Government

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (2.31 pm): On Sunday morning, Queenslanders saw the sun rise on change and a better future with the election of an Albanese Labor government. The Australian people took the opportunity to put behind us the nine miserable years of the previous Liberal-National government. I say that there is nothing more miserable than the performance of the member for Kawana today. That kind of behaviour is exactly why people are turning off politics, and it is absolutely disgraceful. I remind the member for Kawana that there was a 4.6 per cent swing to Labor in Fairfax and a 4.3 per cent swing to Labor in Fisher, so perhaps he should not gloat.

Scott Morrison obviously showed us that the bulldozer was less ‘dozer’ and more ‘bull’—refusing to take responsibility, missing in action, blaming others and not admitting to his mistakes. The Australian voters have seen through him and his lacklustre and divided team with a clear and decisive kick.

On a local level, I want to congratulate my incredible local federal members. I first mention Milton Dick MP, the member for Oxley, who ran a terrific campaign. Milton has been my friend for 30 years. He is one of the hardest working representatives I know and he convincingly earned the trust of his community. At this time he has seen a 5.4 per cent swing to him and he holds almost 62 per cent of the two-party preferred vote. In the adjoining seat of Blair, going into this election as a marginal seat of 1.2 per cent, Shayne Neumann has prevailed with a 4.5 per cent swing to Labor. This is despite the LNP throwing everything at this seat, including a visit from Scott Morrison and Barnaby Joyce, though I am not sure that was a real positive for the Liberals. I also want to thank Pam McCreddie, our candidate in Wright. This is always a really tough seat for Labor, but she has managed to shave four per cent off that margin. We are very grateful to Pam and our incredible volunteers for taking on the fight in this important and changing seat.

I recognise that expectations are high for the new Albanese Labor government, and that is no surprise given how low expectations had gotten under the former Liberal-National coalition government. Anthony Albanese in his victory speech did not speak of miracles but of something fundamental to Labor and to our movement. He said—

No-one left behind because we should always look after the disadvantaged and the vulnerable. But also no-one held back, because we should support aspiration and opportunity. This is what my government will do.

This puts the new Albanese government in step with the Palaszczuk Labor government. The very things we have been fighting for since we won office in 2015 are exactly that: a hand up and a push forward for our communities.

For the first time in a long time, we can have a serious and meaningful discussion about health care in our country. Later this week I will be speaking more on the Health and Environment Committee’s important report on the impact that primary, allied and private health care, as well as aged care and

NDIS, have had on our public health system. It is a meaningful and considered report and, frankly, if the Morrison government had been re-elected this report would have been left to languish or, like those opposite have done, been derided.

An Albanese Labor government will address fundamental concerns in our health system such as addressing GP shortages in regional and outer metro regions like mine, ensuring that medications are cheaper for those who can least afford them and restoring regional telehealth services. An Albanese Labor government will implement practical measures to ensure older Australians receive the aged care they deserve. Seriously, when you have to include better food for residents as a key part of your aged-care policy, you know that the system is fundamentally broken and, frankly, an absolute disgrace.

An Albanese Labor government will do something more about extending the promise of home ownership to more Australians, not by raiding people's superannuation accounts to achieve this—doing little more than raising the prices of the very homes young and lower earning buyers could ill afford. We know that the LNP do not support universal superannuation, and if they had been re-elected I was confident that they would have further eroded and dismantled our super system.

Whilst I take no comfort in people losing their seats, I was pleased to see that junior Liberal minister Tim Wilson, who zealously pushed his 'home first, super second' policy, is now more 'Zoe Daniel first, Tim Wilson second' in the seat of Goldstein.

We now have a federal government that will implement the Uluru Statement from the Heart in full, that will implement all 55 recommendations of the *Respect@work* report and that will finally deliver a national anti-corruption commission. It is indeed a new and welcome dawn in Australian politics.