



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2022

## **MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

### **Liberal National Party, Performance**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (2.21 pm): The member for Kawana, who in the past has worn his favourite stuffed toy into this chamber, now brings in some popcorn. What a deficit of quality over volume! It is not even worth responding to the dribble that that speech entails. Before I speak on the very important matter of the Energy and Jobs Plan I will address a couple of points made by the Leader of the Opposition.

Obviously the matters around Mackay Hospital are serious matters. What we saw from the Leader of the Opposition again was an attempt to apply different standards to the government than he applies to himself. There are some terrible things that have occurred there which the inquiry has identified. Three of them involved the death of babies. One of those deaths was, in fact, a number of governments ago, in 2013.

The Leader of the Opposition is trying to get the health minister sacked for his political gain, but he does not inform this chamber of the facts. If he is applying that standard to this government, he should also be accepting responsibility on behalf of the previous Newman government in which he was previously a minister. Does he do that? No, he does not. He verbals people consistently. He does it in press conferences often. We saw that with the laptop controversy—five months talking about the laptop, day after day, often making allegations about raids, goons and seizures only to be found out and caught absolutely cold by the CCC's independent investigation. Did he stand up like an adult and actually apologise and accept responsibility for the fact that he was misleading people daily? No, he did not. He was caught cold

**Mr Crisafulli** interjected.

**Mr BAILEY:** There he is interjecting because he does not like the truth. He has a very thin skin.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Order! Through the chair.

**Mr BAILEY:** He did not apologise. He was found out by the CCC independent report in early July. Did he stand up? No, he hid from the media for a couple of days. He went to regional Queensland to duck the media gallery and just slithered away from it. That is the Leader of the Opposition—as slippery as an eel. He is a career politician and a former journalist.

The thesis that somehow, after them sacking 1,800 nurses and picking fights with doctors for three years, the crisis began when this government started re-employing the nurses we needed in our health system and started to work with the doctors to restore the health system is an absurdity. For seven years of this government we have restored the health system, because it was gutted by the Leader of the Opposition and his mate the member for Kawana and half the Newman government ministers.

**Mr Minnikin** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Resume your seat, please, Minister. Member for Chatsworth, you have been interjecting repeatedly. You are warned.

**Mr BAILEY:** Half the Newman government ministry, all still in control, have not learnt the lessons of the past. This thesis that this has been an issue for seven years when we restored the health system, we restored the nurses, we worked with the doctors, we are building new hospitals, we are expanding hospitals after the savage cuts during the Leader of the Opposition's time in the Newman government is pathetic. It is pathetic.

I also say this. No matter someone's political view of the Minister for Health, the criticism that she engaged in vitriol is a gutter slur by the Leader of the Opposition. Whether someone agrees or does not agree with the Minister for Health on any political matter, she is not the kind of person who engages in vitriol anywhere or any time I can ever recall. The Leader of the Opposition ought to be ashamed of himself for going too far; he is the master of overreach. That is who he is; he is the master of overreach.

Look at the laptop deceptions that he brought in, and then he slithered away from that. He consistently misleads and verbals people in his daily press conferences, and to date he has gotten away with some of those. I can assure the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Kawana, who has such a thin skin he has blocked me because he also does not like the accountability of being kept honest for the sorts of things he says—the little Newmans over there have not learnt a thing. There they all are: the members for Clayfield, Chatsworth, Mudgeeraba, Kawana and formerly Mundingburra but he ran away from his home town. He was so pathetic he ran away when he lost his seat.