




Speech By
Patrick Weir

MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

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MOTION

Jobs, Skills and Training

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (12.49 pm): It is plain to see why the Premier never allowed the Deputy Premier to chair cabinet because here he is his first time in the big chair in this House and he is wasting the parliament's time. Correct me if I am wrong, but this House legislates the laws of this land. I do not think there has been one bill introduced by this government this week. I could be wrong. Maybe I missed it. I do not think there has been one bill introduced this week.

If you want to address the problems around skills then bring in some legislation to do that. As for trying to blame everyone else, you have been in government for 7½ years and the problems of this state rest with you only.

Ms Farmer interjected.

Mr WEIR: I hear the member for Bulimba chirping away. If you want to talk about skills—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Member, direct your comments through the chair.

Mr WEIR:—there is no business or industry in Queensland that is not without skilled labour. When I talk to mechanics I hear there is a shortage of mechanics. You wonder why you have to wait so long to get a builder, plumber or painter. It is because you have failed. It is your job to provide those skilled people. You have failed. You have missed every target, as we heard earlier. Your record is very poor.

As far as my opposite number, whose chair is vacant, is concerned, if you want to bring legislation into this House, what about bringing in an energy plan. That minister has not brought one bill into this House while I have been the shadow minister. The energy minister has not brought one piece of legislation into this House. You talk about the transition, but where is the plan? There is nothing planned. If you want to talk about failures, that is a failure.

As far as skills are concerned, the agricultural sector is short of skills. That is because this government closed the agricultural colleges. I note the agriculture minister is not here either.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, I believe there are conventions around naming members who may or may not be present.

Mr WEIR: That is a good point because I have noticed the backbench have been lining up to speak and the ministers have been absent in this debate.

I see Minister Stewart is ready to speak. At long last he has approved Acland. Now it has gone to Minister Butcher. It now sits on his desk. I would like the minister to tell the people of Oakey how long it is going to sit on his desk before he approves it. At this stage there is not a lot of confidence that this is going to proceed. We believe that it has been moved from one too-hard basket to another too-hard basket. Minister, you need to stand up and tell the people of Oakey—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, direct your comments through the chair.

Mr WEIR:—and the district that you are going to act on this project and create 600 jobs. Do not do a two-line media release. Stand up and be honest with the people. It rests on you, Minister.