



Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**


**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 November 2023

**MOTION**

**Infrastructure**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (4.43 pm): Talking about 'Going down the only road I've ever known', the only road the last speaker is ever going to know is the backbench. This was from the supposed Assistant Treasurer of the state on a day when Anthony Albanese, the Prime Minister of this country, reduced our funding from 80-20 to 50-50. If that is the future of the Labor treasury benches, goodness help the lot of us. What I can say is that we can never trust Labor. Before the last state election, how many times did they say there would be no new or increased taxes? They said it twenty-six times.

**Mr Powell** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Member for Glass House, you are warned under the standing orders.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** We have now got five new or increased taxes under this useless Palaszczuk government. When they have come out today, we have seen a bit of right and left Labor action with the member for Pumicestone in relation to the desal in Pumicestone. Let's give a bit of history in relation to that infrastructure project. I say that under the Palaszczuk government it will be built on Bribie Island because we cannot trust a word that this Premier or this Deputy Premier say. We have the water minister, who is actually unable to be in the House this week, and I hope he is okay.

**Mr BAILEY:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** I said I hope that he is okay.

**Mr BAILEY:** Under the standing orders, a member is not allowed to refer to the absence of a member. The member is experienced and she should understand that standing order.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I will take some advice and rule on the point of order. I take this opportunity to say that there have been a number of interjections I have overheard from various members noting the absence of various members of the House. Member for Nanango, I appreciate the intent of what you were trying to do, but there is a convention that we do not refer to the absence of a member. I remind you of that.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. The Labor government have become so desperate and so chaotic that they will say and do anything to cling to power. When it comes to building a desal on Bribie Island, let us give a bit of a history lesson. We know full well that the Premier came out and announced a desal and the water minister did not rule out a desal on Bribie Island. Then there was a text between the Deputy Premier and the member for Pumicestone, with the Deputy Premier saying, 'It's okay. I'll make sure I rule it out,' but the water minister has been unable to rule it out because we know there will be a desal in Pumicestone.

**Ms KING:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at the member's words and ask that she withdraw them.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I will take some advice. Member for Nanango, neither myself nor the clerks at the table heard you refer in that way, but if you did refer to the member personally she has taken offence and I ask you to withdraw.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I understand the convention is to withdraw and I will withdraw when I do name a member. I talked about the Deputy Premier, I talked about the Premier and I talked about the electorate of Pumicestone.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** What is your point of order?

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** My point of order is that I did not reflect on the member.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Okay. As I ruled, please do so if you did, but because we did not hear it then move on and continue your contribution.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** I am happy to withdraw. What we see here is a desperate and chaotic government that is under so much pressure because the seat of Pumicestone is gone under the Labor government. It is the Deputy Premier, the Premier and the water minister who have thrown the member for Pumicestone under the bus.

**Mr Hinchliffe** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The member for Sandgate is warned under the standing orders.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** On the day that they put out a statement to try to rule it out, what have they done? They have come in here and moved a motion that is throwing the member for Pumicestone under the bus once again. If they are going to rule out a desal on Bribie Island, what about just over the bridge? Is it Ningi? Is it going to be another part of Pumicestone? We know the Labor government have announced a desal and they have not said where it is going to be. If it is not going to be Bribie Island, is it going to be Caloundra? Is the desal now going to be in Caloundra? Are they going to rule that one out and try to save that? We cannot trust a thing the Labor government say. They say one thing before an election and they do another thing after they are elected.