




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.16 pm): Let me tell honourable members about the member for Southern Downs. He is a member who defends the worker's right to have a choice in the state of Queensland. He is a member who defends a nurse's ability to save \$300 on their union membership and get better services. That is what the member for Southern Downs does. We will not be lectured to by this minister. If she wants to quote the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission, we will see that they had an interesting report last week that showed in the minister's own department her director of workplace health and safety is taking secret phone calls from the CFMEU and making complaints about it. So she should not lecture us about the CFMEU and the Industrial Relations Commission. That is the same CFMEU that was fined \$179,000 in the Federal Court last week and that funds the Labor Party's campaign. Why does the minister not talk about that? Why does she not expose that in her department? Of course, she will not.

On other matters, I will put every member of our team above the Labor rabble any day of the week with the chaos and dysfunction we see in this government. It can be no clearer than with the Gabba redevelopment and announcement going from a billion dollars to \$2.7 billion, a 170 per cent blowout. I said last week the number was drawn either out of thin air or on the back of an envelope. We have given every opportunity for Premier Palaszczuk to explain the costings, the economic modelling and the business case. Where did all these figures come from? However there has only been crickets—absolutely nothing. I laughed. Last week—are members ready for this—I was at the Legacy Forum that the Premier forgot to mention I attended. The Premier said on the stage, 'I want to share the stage of the Olympics.' Oh my God, there is a stage, but this Premier is not sharing it as far as the Olympics are concerned.

This is the AAA games; they are 'All About Anna': access all areas. That is what the AAA games are, not the 2032 Olympic Games. The Premier says people are whingeing when we ask questions about the Gabba and the blowouts under this government. It is not whingeing. It is the government's responsibility to the people of Queensland whose money they are spending to explain the expenditure and the blowouts. Then I thought it quite bizarre when the Premier said a few weeks ago the Gabba blowout was because of commodities, the Deputy Premier said it was disability access and then the Premier said, 'We didn't start the Ukraine war.' I did not know who accused Premier Palaszczuk of starting the Ukraine war; I missed it. That is how bizarre and chaotic this government has got now.

Now she says to stop whingeing. The Premier is so arrogant that she does not want questions. If you do question those opposite, you are absolutely sidelined. I would have loved to be a fly on the wall after the National Press Club yesterday when the Australian Olympic Committee CEO said that the Gabba needed 'a coat of paint'. Within two hours there was a 'clarifying statement'. Who made the call? Was it the Premier, the Deputy Premier or one of the 30 media spinners in the office?

Mr Purdie: It was the CFMEU—Gary Bullock.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection: the CFMEU's Gary Bullock. Someone made the phone call. I would have hated to be the poor CEO of the Australian Olympic Committee, who was forced to put out a 'clarifying statement' because he dared to challenge the Palaszczuk government. They are so arrogant that they will not be questioned. To them, it is offensive that we dare ask them about this. That is the problem when a person who is controlled by their ego makes it about themselves. Premier Palaszczuk is more interested in building monuments to herself. That is what the Olympics is becoming: what is in it for Annastacia Palaszczuk, not the people of Queensland. The chaos with this government is absolutely disgraceful. I swear, it is like a hurdles race in which every runner hits a hurdle and falls over. That is how chaotic this government is, and who is at the head of it? It is Annastacia Palaszczuk, the Premier of Queensland. These games will forever be known as the AAA games—'All About Anna'. It should not be; it should be about the people of Queensland. All we want is transparency and accountability.

(Time expired)