



Speech By  
**Jarrod Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2023

**MOTION**

**Liberal National Party, Health**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.26 pm): The member for Mackay is right: the member for Mudgeeraba does visit hospitals. She visits hospitals in the member's electorate. However, the one thing that I disagree with her on is what the nurses are telling the member for Mudgeeraba. They are pleading with the member for Mudgeeraba to bring their issues onto the floor of the House because their local member, who was the assistant health minister, was not listening. They are pleading with the opposition—the nurses, the doctors, the paramedics. They are coming to the opposition and pleading with the opposition to raise the Queensland Health crisis. Is it any wonder why we have conducted over 30 health town hall crisis meetings across the state where people are coming forward and talking about the health crisis?

Make no mistake: this motion is for the Minister for Health to try and claw back a little bit of her leadership ambitions after the circus and chaos that ensued in the House in question time this morning. We saw the debacle of the health minister standing up for the member for Pumicestone, who says she wants to basically vet health employees—'Come to my office. I can vet them.' That is essentially what her Facebook post was all about. The health minister defended that—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock.

**Ms KING:** Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I find the member for Kawana's comments personally offensive and I ask that he withdraw.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** I withdraw. This morning the Minister for Health defended the actions and the Facebook post of the member for Pumicestone. The Premier then threw the health minister under a bus and then the health minister changed her story six minutes later. It was a complete embarrassment and it goes to the heart of the chaos and dysfunction of the Palaszczuk Labor government. It is a crisis. Why on earth would a government, after nine years in government in this state, not be able to move motions in here about its record? Rather, those opposite are going back to a government nearly 10 years in the past at the time of the next election. Do members know what? They talk about aspiring. I was in that government they talked about and I remember when the young kids were finally able to get their cochlear implants that the Labor Party did not get them. I was a part of that government when Lawrence Springborg as health minister got rid of and completed the dental waiting list—the long waitlist. People got the dental surgery they needed—unlike under the Labor Party under Anna Bligh and Anastacia Palaszczuk. At the time they could not do that.

**Ms Bates:** Ambulance ramping halved.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** The elective surgery waiting list went down and ambulance ramping went down 50 per cent so, yes, there are things we should aspire to—not what we have seen over the last nine years.

Government members cannot come in here and talk about their record because the Labor Party record in Queensland is bad. It is one of putting politics first, not patients. The Labor Party should absolutely be ashamed of its record. This motion is a break-glass-in-emergency motion for the health minister. She had such an embarrassing morning. It is basically pleading with the backbench: 'Look at me. I am not as bad as I looked this morning. Keep me in sight for leadership ambitions.' What a disgrace and a waste of time.