



Speech By Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 16 November 2023

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Federal Labor Government, Infrastructure Funding

Mr BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): Well, the cat is out of the bag today with respect to Labor's cuts across Queensland. We have seen in the last few days this fake outrage from the state Labor government. I wonder why that is? It has been revealed today by Catherine King, the federal infrastructure minister, who said at a national press conference only a short while ago, 'Nothing in this cuts list should come as a surprise to the state Labor government because I worked with them for months on this.' She said 'months', not the last few days.

Catherine King, the federal infrastructure minister, said, 'There must be some confusion by the Queensland government.' There must be confusion, because we know that Labor's infrastructure cuts list was prepared by the kings of cuts themselves. Queenslanders now know that Labor is the party for cuts. Leading the charge are Labor's kings of cuts—Steven Miles, Mark Bailey and Cameron Dick, the kings of the cuts!

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I find those remarks personally offensive and I ask that they be withdrawn.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): The member has taken personal offence. Will you withdraw?

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I also remind you to use correct titles in the chamber.

Mr BLEIJIE: Catherine King, the infrastructure minister, said today that there must be confusion with the state Labor government. She said that nothing should have come as a surprise to the state Labor government. She said that in fact she spoke to Minister Bailey last night. She said that she also spoke to Deputy Premier Steven Miles last week, but she said that discussions have been happening for months. Labor, the kings of cuts, would have Queenslanders believe this confected outrage in the last three days. It is all for show. It was absolutely for show. This is nothing more than Labor's state infrastructure cuts list. That is what it is.

The LNP have been fighting for Queenslanders' share. We were fighting for Queensland when the Premier was sipping champagne in Paris, when the Premier was drinking Aperol in Italy and when the Premier was drinking baijiu in China last week. We were fighting for Queenslanders while the Premier was overseas. This is the Labor Party for cuts. They will forever be known as the Labor Party for cuts. They are the party for cuts. Queenslanders know that the Labor Party is the party for cuts, infrastructure cuts led by the kings of cuts themselves—Minister Bailey, Minister Miles and Treasurer Dick.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member for Kawana is an experienced member of this House. Once again, he is not using correct titles. I find his comments personally offensive and I ask that they be withdrawn.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I only heard the member use the correct title. Member, the minister has taken personal offence and has asked that you withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw.

Mr BAILEY: Just to the point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker, he used surnames rather than titles.

Mr BLEIJIE: 'Minister Bailey'—I can say that. You can say 'Minister Bailey'.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Member for Kawana, you have the call.

Mr BLEIJIE: Minister Bailey—incompetent Minister Bailey, budget blowout Bailey. That is what Queenslanders know him by.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. Member for Kawana—

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I just advised you on using correct titles and you went straight back to doing it. If you do it again, there will be a warning.

Mr BLEIJIE: Nowhere in Queensland has been spared from Labor's savage infrastructure cuts—nowhere, not even the Sunshine Coast. The Sunshine Coast passenger rail has been kicked out to the never-never. There is just a bit of planning money, but there is no money to deliver the direct line. The Mooloolah River Interchange safety upgrades have been cut under the Labor Party. This Labor Party in Queensland will forever be known by Queenslanders as the party of cuts. Labor Party is the party of cuts.