




Speech By
Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.17 pm): A Palaszczuk Labor government member has spent five minutes talking about the opposition and not the record of nine years of the Palaszczuk Labor government. This is a bad government with a bad record, with a bad minister. Like the opposition leader said, this government has had a shocker of a year. It has been a shocker of a year for the Labor government—as we colloquially call it, an annus horribilis or, as some of my colleagues say, a ‘terribilis annus’. Whether it is a horrible year or a terrible year, it is a bad year for the Labor government and it is a bad year for Queenslanders under the Labor government.

We absolutely have a kakistocracy in Queensland. ‘Oh, what is that?’ she asks. I will tell members what a kakistocracy is under this Labor government: it is a Labor government run by the worst, the least qualified and most unscrupulous of citizens. It is a bad government. Look at the members over there. Look at the ministers.

Let’s look at the year that was for the Premier. In her valedictory speech at the end of this week, the Premier will start with her trip to Paris—her first overseas luxury vacation to Europe. Then she will talk about Sydney shopping over the weekend before the budget. Then she was singing songs and kumbaya at Splendour in the Grass. Then she lived it up at a few more concerts. Then she went to Italy and sipped Aperol, so she might tell us about Italy. She will then talk to us about the red carpets. This Premier never fronts up when it matters to Queenslanders. She never fronts up in a housing crisis, a youth crime crisis, a cost-of-living crisis or a health crisis. The health crisis is getting worse under Minister Fentiman than it ever was under Minister D’Ath. Would you believe it? Yes, absolutely it is getting worse under Minister Fentiman.

Then the Premier thought, ‘I’ll reset with a reshuffle.’ How has that gone down? There are the same clowns and the same circus. The more things change, the more they stay the same. Talk about copycats; I said that at a press conference months ago about this Labor government when I quoted Bon Jovi, who sang that, and Minister Grace made out they were her words. They were not; it was Bon Jovi who said that. The more things change, the more they stay the same. The Labor circus continues with the unions not backing the Premier and the leaks continue. They are now telling the Premier. Last weekend someone on that side was saying the Premier should consider her position over Christmas. There are leaks against the Premier—bad leaks—every day. I am not going to name her, but she’s had a bad day today. The one leaking against the Premier has had a bad day today, not a healthy day I might say.

Then there are the blowouts and the cover-ups such as Minister Mark Bailey’s \$2.4 billion train manufacturing blowout and cover-up. He said the other day that Queenslanders do not care about budget blowouts. Yes, they do.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at that allegation and I ask it be withdrawn.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): The member has taken personal offence. I ask you to withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. Talking about the minister who just took offence, he had a press conference a little while ago. I will tell honourable members who was more surprised that the federal government has released publicly the \$3 billion blowout that the minister said Queenslanders do not need to know about just yet. It was Deputy Premier Steven Miles, who was standing behind him absolutely shocked. It was like Steven Miles, the Deputy Premier, was saying, 'Left, left, left! Get out of shot. Get out of shot, baby. Get me out of this shot!'

Then there are the rushed laws, chaos and crisis, red carpets, Labor infrastructure cuts, backstabbing by backbenchers, auditions by incompetent ministers wanting to take over from the Premier and, as I just mentioned, the train wreck press conference a little earlier. Do not let this minister near a rail or road project ever again. I am hearing the director-general has asked for a restraining order on her minister being involved in any press conferences about road or rail because everything Minister Bailey touches turns to custard. It is costing Queenslanders billions, but Queenslanders are not going to buy Labor mistruths, Labor blowouts or Labor incompetence anymore.

The Premier does not have enough self-awareness to know that she is the problem; the Labor Party is the problem. If Minister Fentiman were at the Taylor Swift concert I would have seen her mimicking the lyrics, 'It's her. She's the problem, it's her. It's she. It's her. She's the problem, it's her,' referring to the Premier. The only way Queenslanders will sort the chaos and crisis in this government is to show Labor the door in '24.