



Speech By  
**Jimmy Sullivan**


**MEMBER FOR STAFFORD**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 November 2023

**MOTION**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government Polling**

 **Mr SULLIVAN** (Stafford—ALP) (5.58 pm): I rise to support the amendment as moved by the minister. When it comes to the LNP record, they say they aspire to 2012-15, so we know that their history would be Queensland's terrible future. Isn't it telling that I am speaking after the member who served as assistant minister to the then treasurer, who sat around the CBRC table that sacked those 14,000 workers and who then served as assistant minister to the premier, who as leader of the LNP party never apologised once for what they did in government, who sits on the frontbench now and has not apologised for what they did.

The LNP record is not just the 14,000 cuts and the impact that they had on those individuals but the economic impact that those cuts had on the state. For example, the loss of jobs led to families not building an extension on their house. It is also what it did to integrity. When people fear that they are going to be sacked, they do not put their head above the turret.

**Mr Head** interjected.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** I take the interjection from the member for Callide because he is just a broken record.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): And then they will cease.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** I am happy to take it. The member should probably pay more attention to question time. The Premier and the education minister have explained time and time again—this week and last week—that free kindy is available. He might want to avail himself of that sort of educational experience. He might learn something. He might be able to colour in the booklet that he has been carrying around for two weeks.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** I am not actually having a go at the member for Callide. I feel proud for him. I feel support for him. Imagine the strength it takes to get up every morning, to get out of bed, put your suit on and look at yourself in the mirror and say, 'We can do it, mate. I can fulfil this really important role for the party of being a crow squawking at the breeze every day.'

**Mr Head** interjected.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** Imagine the indignation and hurt of those public servants who were sacked. The member was not here, so he may not realise that at the time the premier said about sacking 14,000 people that he was taking out the 'pooper scooper'. Those of us who speak in debates all the time thank our secretariat. We thank the departments who brief us. We thank the departments who prepare the bills that we all debate and vote on. Sacking 14,000 of them and describing that as a 'pooper scooper' is beyond terrible. Those opposite, including the Leader of the Opposition, have not apologised to this day—to this day.

In terms of their record of integrity, we will not be lectured to by the party that increased the threshold for donations to \$12,000. That is not poetic licence. It meant that a businessperson could walk into an MP's office with \$12,000 in cash, hand it over to an MP and nobody would know about it—nobody! That was the law under those opposite, and then they voted against it when we changed it. They voted against it when we introduced the nation-leading real-time disclosure so that people would actually know who is donating to all parties, or Independents for that matter. That is our record. We are absolutely happy to stand on our record on that.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** I understand why they are upset. This is the party who sacked the Parliamentary Crime and Misconduct Commission in the middle of the night, including the then Independent member for Gladstone, who was chair at the time. What an irony that I now have the privilege to serve on the committee that came after. I know why those opposite hate it when I get on my feet, because I am a living, breathing record of how far their political failings have gone. When I first came across that mob I was just a humble but hardworking staffer, working for the then leader of the opposition, working against the largest parliamentary majority in the country's history, and we took it back in one term—in one term—because of those opposite. I completely understand why they do not like hearing my voice. Not only do I get to stand here representing my beautiful community; I get to serve in a third-term Palaszczuk Labor government delivering for Queensland and delivering for Stafford.