



Speech By  
**Ros Bates**


**MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA**

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**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.31 pm): There is a new health minister—same old story, same old mess and same old excuses. It has been a strange week. Every time the Minister for Health rose to talk about the health system I could hear the member for Waterford's voice; even though it was her talking, all I heard was the member for Redcliffe's words. That is right: a different voice but the same excuses. The excuses have already started. Nothing has changed. The hubris, the arrogance and the self-importance—those opposite reek of it. There is not a skerrick of humility in sight, but that is the Palaszczuk government.

Most of all, it is the hypocrisy of those opposite which is the most obscene affront to Queenslanders. That was on full display yesterday when the opposition revealed that sick and injured patients from the Gold Coast are being sent to Sea World to receive hospital care. The minister, by her own admission, did not even know. It was done in secret, done on the quiet with no announcement. The health minister and those opposite did not want Queenslanders to know. They are ashamed of it. They are ashamed of it and I will tell this House why. There are two reasons: one, they are mortally embarrassed, as they creep closer to a decade in government, that they have not even built enough beds for our hospital system on the Gold Coast; and, two, those opposite are wounded because they are doing everything they themselves apparently despise. The minister's rank hypocrisy has been laid bare just days into the job. Yes, this is the minister who decries any hint of collaboration with the private sector and the same minister who decries the actions of a government 10 years gone. However, she is doing the exact same thing she apparently deplores. The hide, the absolute hide!

The health minister and Premier Palaszczuk want to walk both sides of the street. No, Queenslanders will not let that happen. They have been found out. To see them trying to twist and squirm their way out of this situation was as pathetic as it was comical. They are so desperate now that they no longer know what they stand for. They are so mired in chaos and crisis that they will try to say one thing publicly and secretly do another under the cloak of secrecy.

Queenslanders have grown tired of that type of deceitful behaviour. They are awake to it and they are calling it for what it is. To see those opposite yesterday, particularly the health minister and the education minister, treat the situation as a joke does not wash. It is not a joke. No-one except the Palaszczuk government is laughing. Queenslanders do not think the Queensland Health crisis is a joke, doctors and nurses desperate to find a bed for their patients in overcrowded hospitals do not think it is a joke and patients who are confused about why they are staying in a hotel instead of a hospital do not think it is joke. The only joke around here is the Palaszczuk government and it is just chaos and crisis.