




Speech By
Ann Leahy

MEMBER FOR WARREGO

Record of Proceedings, 7 March 2024

MOTION

Palaszcuk, Hon. A

 **Ms LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (3.41 pm): I rise to address the motion acknowledging former premier Anastacia Palaszcuk's service to the parliament and to her electorate in Queensland for an extended period. Local governments in Queensland are not celebrating the way the Palaszcuk Labor government has treated them over this time. Labor tried to change the voting laws for local government and introduce compulsory preferential voting for the 2024 local government elections only to be forced to fall on their sword. Also deserving of mention is how mayors and councillors were sacked by press release before the legislation was in place.

The Palaszcuk Labor government's failures resulted in the PCCC report into the Logan City Council matter. It took the PCCC to expose the Palaszcuk Labor government's failure of impartiality, independence, fairness and regard to the public interest when it came to the conduct of the Crime and Corruption Commission in this matter. Under the Palaszcuk Labor government the following mayors were brought before the court by the CCC and then cleared or charges dropped: Alf Lacey, Andrew Antonelli, Edric Walden, Allan Sutherland, Bob Manning and Adrian Raedel, to name a few.

The Palaszcuk Labor government pursued a climate of fear in local government with an overzealous Office of the Independent Assessor complaint system and a broken integrity system that has cost ratepayers dearly, where mayors and councillors faced investigations for blocking a Facebook troll or lending out keys to the town hall. Mayor Sean Dillon, the LNP candidate for Gregory, was threatened with termination of office when he spoke out about a desire for COVID-19 vaccinations to be handled better. Sadly, Queensland local governments will not forget the legacy which has been left to them by the Palaszcuk Labor government.