




Speech By
Fiona Simpson

MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE

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MOTION

Palaszczuk, Hon. A

 **Ms SIMPSON** (Maroochydore—LNP) (3.25 pm): I do wish the former premier well in her new life and hope that she finds fulfilment post politics in whatever she does. I used to spar quite a bit with the former premier. For me, it is not about being personal; it is about the issues. Unfortunately, I do need to address some of the legacy issues that are less than glowing in contrast to what government members opposite have been stating.

One thing about the Labor Party is that they are very good campaigners but they are a terrible government. We now see the legacy of nine years of this Labor government, which is a legacy of crises such as the youth crime crisis and the housing crisis. I have never seen so many people living in tents. They are desperate for housing. That has happened under this government's watch and due to their inaction. Unfortunately, it is a hallmark of the style of government we had under Anastacia Palaszczuk and her deputy premier, Steven Miles. They failed to act in a timely way and now there is an absolute crisis. The same can be said of the youth crime crisis. It has grown because they changed the Youth Justice Act. That was changed under Anastacia Palaszczuk and all of the Labor members opposite. Unfortunately, the crisis that has grown through their deliberate action—not inaction but deliberate action—has been felt quite painfully throughout Queensland.

A lot has been said about COVID. It was a challenging time for many. Unfortunately, there was a failure to listen when medical circumstances justified bringing babies and pregnant mums from New South Wales into Queensland for emergency surgery. There was a failure to do that. Anastacia Palaszczuk said that Queensland hospitals were for Queenslanders. As a result of that delay, a baby was lost. That was not good government. That was a failure to listen and address a critical issue of care.