




Speech By
Jason Hunt

MEMBER FOR CALOUNDRA

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MOTIONS

Labor Party, Together Union

 **Mr HUNT** (Caloundra—ALP) (5.42 pm): I rise to speak in support of the amendment. With seven months to go before the state poll, the LNP are tackling the big issues for Queensland. In a rare example of them taking a position on anything, what do we see in today's motion? Is it cost of living? No. Is it housing? No. Is it community safety? No. Is it putting nuclear reactors on our beaches? Well, maybe. Admittedly, they are quite keen on that. No. For the LNP, the burning issue right now is the selection of a colour palette for an ad campaign. These are apparently the 'right priorities'. Their contributions were brought to you today by Dulux!

Here is another shock. As a custodial Together delegate of 19 years, I am willing to support a community campaign run by the Together union. I was a proud Together delegate when the member for Kawana proudly announced in the media that there were no rapes in Queensland jails. 'I reject that rapes happen in jails,' he said. 'We have protections,' he said. I was a proud Together delegate when the member for Kawana said that prison officers were not facing any more dangers due to overcrowding. I was a proud Together delegate when the member for Kawana had one solitary prisoner in a 52-bed unit at Woodford because of the VLAD debacle during an overcrowding issue. Yes, I have a long and very happy association with the Together union.

The original LNP motion calls on me to renounce the tactics of a third-party community survey. The LNP want me to renounce listening to the community. The LNP have come into this House and demanded that I not listen to my community. Well, I refuse. I will use every mechanism I can to listen to the people of Caloundra and Queensland.

The LNP claim that this survey is encouraging unsuspecting Queenslanders into misdirected online activity. If, for example, I were responsible for a page that said, 'Today we're asking for your support to help make a real difference and ease the strain faced by millions of Queenslanders. Please give now if you can,' if I were deliberately targeting that message to people over 65, like most scammers do, and if it turned out that the cost-of-living page was just a giant con asking for contributions to a political party, now that would be misdirection. That would be both disgusting and dishonest, but who on earth would commit such a putrid and deceitful act?

Mr Harper: Surely no-one!

Mr HUNT: I beg your pardon. It was the LNP in May of last year—an online data and financial scam that said the only way to address the cost of living was to give them money. If I have a common interest with a union—any union for that matter—I will gladly support the campaign, particularly one as vital as the cost of living. I mean a real campaign, not a party political sham.

There is a real opportunity in this debate today that beautifully highlights the priorities of both the Miles government and the LNP. Just last week I joined the member for Nicklin at the TAFE in Nambour for the Sunshine Coast community forum. It was hugely successful. We were getting feedback about

employment and skills priorities for employers and community groups while at the same time making the community representatives aware of the excellent work being done by TAFE, because this government backs TAFE and TAFE students. Make no mistake: the staff and the students at TAFE remember what the LNP did last time. They have not forgotten.

There we were engaged in a fantastic community consultation forum and I get a message from a Sunshine Coast journalist asking for a response because the LNP were worried. Apparently third-party ads that I was happy to support did not have any Labor branding or Labor colours. These are the big issues for the LNP on the Sunshine Coast—not roads, not rail, not education, not housing, not health, not safety. Oh, no. For the Sunshine Coast LNP, it is the colour scheme on the ads. I hope they take that to the next election as a demonstration of their right priorities.

When the LNP were last in government, one of the crucial things that disappeared from public sector EBA agreements was the consultation clause. The LNP are now demanding that I ignore Caloundra based on a clash of colours. That is a farce and that is a joke.