




Speech By
Jimmy Sullivan

MEMBER FOR STAFFORD

Record of Proceedings, 7 March 2024

MOTION

Palaszcuk, Hon. A

 **Mr SULLIVAN** (Stafford—ALP) (3.31 pm): As I reflected in my first I speech, I did not always call Annastacia 'Premier'. I knew her for many years as the member for Inala and as a minister and, of course, I worked very closely with her in those opposition years. I sat in the corner on the far side of the chamber for many years and saw firsthand the atrocities of the Newman government. I want to reflect on the enormous work that Annastacia and her team put in. I think the entire Labor opposition occupied the seats to the right of the seat currently occupied by the member for Surfers Paradise. The attack she was under in those years was phenomenal. I think she deserves all the respect for that. The late, great Tim Mulherin said in the first sitting week something to the effect of, 'Stacia, by the end of this we'll have skins like rhinos.' I think he was only half right. I think by the end of it we all had skins like rhinos. Annastacia had skin like a rhino but became the first woman to be elected from opposition, the first to be re-elected and elected again for a third time. She will go down in history for that. My presence in the place should be a reminder to those opposite of how low they have gone in the view of the Queensland public. I went from the corner opposite, with seven members, to standing here in my own right in a Miles government. That is due to Annastacia's hard work and the loyalty we have for her.