



Speech By  
**Steve Minnikin**


**MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH**

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Record of Proceedings, 7 March 2024

**MOTION**

**Palaszcuk, Hon. A**

 **Mr MINNIKIN** (Chatsworth—LNP) (3.54 pm): I have always maintained that you need to comment in relation to the position rather than just the person, but I am going to say that I will defend the former premier now that she is in her private life. I do wish her all the very best going forward. I think it is extraordinarily imperfect when the media still wants to comment on what the former premier does now when it comes to disposing of her assets, selling property et cetera. She is now a free citizen and she is entitled to go about doing whatever she chooses to do legally. I will put that on the record.

I will also simply say that in two minutes it is almost impossible to give a fair critique of someone who held the position of premier of the state for nine years. That longevity alone needs to be congratulated. It is also fair to say that to date she has been the only premier found in contempt of parliament. It is also fair to say that she enjoyed incredible popularity during the height of COVID. As she herself said, 'As a leader in the western world, there was no playbook.' That must have been incredibly difficult.

There were also critics and there were at times double standards. I do not have time to go into that, but I think that also contributed to the formation of some people's views of her. She was part of a government that sold around \$10.11 billion worth of assets. She was also the transport minister when public transport fares rose by 15 per cent for three consecutive years. Like any person in this chamber, she undoubtedly had hits; she also had misses. Now that she is a private citizen, I again wish her all the very best. I urge the media to comment on the chamber and to let her get on and enjoy the rest of her life.