




Speech By
James Lister

MEMBER FOR SOUTHERN DOWNS

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MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Clauson, Mr PJ, AM

 **Mr LISTER** (Southern Downs—LNP) (9.47 am): Paul Clauson's contribution to the state in relation to the Fitzgerald inquiry was indeed immense. He had only been a member of parliament for a year when he joined cabinet in 1986 as attorney-general and minister for justice and his stewardship of that inquiry from the government side was a real lustre to his reputation. He steered a number of changes to the Commissions of Inquiry Act through the House and also dealt with the very sensitive matter of indemnities at the Fitzgerald inquiry. He did them in a way which reflected great credit on him and served to keep the government at arms-length from what was going on at the inquiry. I recall seeing a newspaper cartoon of him at the time he was given this heavy responsibility. He was portrayed as the minister in nappies because he had not been around for long. He very quickly proved the doubters wrong. I would like to reflect on his very important contribution to the state in that regard. Vale, Paul Clauson.