




Speech By
Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

Record of Proceedings, 26 May 2016

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Jobs

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (2.40 pm): What have we seen in the last few weeks from this Labor government? We have seen more jobs for the boys from those opposite. We have already had Terry Mackenroth appointed to the board of QSuper, John Battams appointed to the board of the Queensland Investment Corporation and in recent days we have had Peter Beattie appointed to head the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. What is next? Former deputy premier Jim Elder to head the Electoral Commission of Queensland or Merri Rose to head ethical standards processes in Queensland? Those opposite must think that Queenslanders are true mugs.

The member for Woodridge, the health minister, is always keen to talk about the commissioning of the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital. Let us talk about unlawful strikes by various militant unions such as the CFMEU and the ETU, which threatened the hospital's opening and led to structural and design problems. Now we have stop-work meetings at the Gold Coast threatening the Commonwealth Games. What about the findings of Judge Greenwood regarding record fines for illegal union activity? Previously, there were illegal strikes at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, which potentially disrupted and jeopardised vital translational research and clinical services in Queensland. Both state and federal governments should take civil action to recover wasted taxpayer dollars—millions of dollars—as a result of illegal strikes. There has been dreadful action by the CFMEU and the Electrical Trades Union at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital.

This government is beholden to unions. Unfortunately, the modern Labor Party fosters a culture of union thuggery, lawlessness, bullying, intimidation, illegality and electoral rorting. They talk the talk of eliminating violence and intimidation with respect to domestic violence and violence against health workers, but when it comes to industrial relations, there is a completely different standard. The hypocrisy is extraordinary. They flip-flop all over the place. The Premier, the member for Inala, is no doubt frozen asking, 'What do I do? I can't rule without the unions. My deputy, the member for South Brisbane, wants my job. My industrial relations minister is asleep at the wheel on youth unemployment, which is now running at 15 per cent in some parts of regional Queensland, and is also captive to union bosses.'

Queenslanders are losing patience with the Premier and the Palaszczuk Labor government. With increasing debt, no credible economic plan and an appalling raid on the defined benefit scheme, a lack of infrastructure spending let alone any vision, falling business confidence, higher car registration fees and higher transport costs, those Labor backbenchers opposite must be very nervous indeed.

Only the LNP has the energy, the experience and the enthusiasm to deliver for Queensland. The Nicholls LNP is government ready.