




Speech By
Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (2.38 pm): What have we seen in Queensland over the past few weeks? We have seen a Labor government that is in absolute crisis and that is failing on matters of integrity and accountability, and a Deputy Premier whose public standing is in absolute tatters. For evidence of that we need only look to today's union protests outside Parliament House and listen to the protesters who were saying that this Labor government is no friend of the worker and were calling for the Deputy Premier to resign.

The scandal surrounding the Deputy Premier's purchase of a house near the Cross River Rail project shows no sign of ending at all. There are just so many serious questions that still need to be answered, with seemingly the house not initially declared on the parliamentary register of interests and we still need to find out whether it was declared before key decisions were taken in relevant meetings about station locations or school approvals. Hopefully we will hear more about that today or in the next few days.

There is also the matter of the phone call to the head of the CCC which could be seen as an attempt to interfere in due process. Despite explanations to the House in relation to that, there are many people in my local electorate who are asking those serious questions as to whether that was an attempt to interfere with due process.

Then we have also had the Premier's chief of staff receive a \$267,000 grant to a private company, Fortress Capstone, via the Queensland Business Development Fund, with the CCC stating that elements of this, if proven, could amount to official corruption. Although ongoing processes and investigations are occurring, these are serious matters here in Queensland. We have also seen belatedly declared luxury accommodation in Canada by the Minister for Employment and Small Business and today another integrity scandal with an assistant minister potentially in breach of electoral laws and the ministerial code of conduct given that the accommodation provided may have breached Labor's own development donation ban laws.

These are serious matters in relation to accountability and integrity here in Queensland, and this is before we talk about mismanagement. Look at Labor's latest budget. What an absolute shambles and an absolute debacle. Here in Queensland debt is going to reach \$90 billion in the next four years. We have higher taxes, with \$3.5 billion of higher taxes, fees and charges added over the last two state budgets. We also have fewer jobs here in Queensland. Seasonally adjusted unemployment is at 6.4 per cent, with 173,000 Queenslanders on the unemployment queue and nothing in relation to infrastructure, particularly in the western suburbs of Brisbane.

Recently there was an article in our local bulletin by the president of the Kenmore-Bellbowrie ALP branch, Michael Springer. People absolutely laugh to think that he and others in his branch could think that anything substantial has been delivered for Queensland, let alone for the western suburbs of Brisbane. This Labor government is failing. We cannot trust Labor. We cannot afford Labor.