




Speech By
Jeff Seeney

MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

Record of Proceedings, 23 February 2016

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr SEENEY** (Callide—LNP) (10.17 am): Last Thursday in this House shortly after lunch we saw a performance from the member for South Brisbane, the member for Woodridge and the member for Ashgrove that will ensure that they will be forever remembered as Labor's chicken-hearted headkickers. They were not prepared to come into the House when everybody was here and practise their headkicking art; they chose to come in after lunch, because they did not quite have the spine, they did not quite have the ticker, they did not quite have the courage to do it in front of everybody. I have no doubt that again today we will see the trio in action. I have no doubt that today they will be tut-tutting and they will be fluffing up their feathers and they will be trying to make an issue out of leadership. But the leadership they should be telling us about is the leadership of the Premier—the only politician in Queensland's history who has made a career out of saying nothing, doing nothing and being nothing.

I wonder what the old-time Labor stalwarts of this House would think—people like Robbie Schwarten. What would he have thought of the chicken-hearted headkickers' performance last week? He always used to talk about the chook house that the premier could not lead the choko vine across. I am 100 per cent sure that he would have kicked those chicken-hearted headkickers right out of his chook house. They would not have made the grade.

This is a government that is reflective of the Premier's leadership style: a leadership style that is based on doing nothing, saying nothing and being nothing. The person who really wants to be the leader sits in the Deputy Premier's seat. The person who really wants to be the leader has sat in the deputy's seat now for too long. The numbers are being done on the backbench. Never before in this parliament have I seen the body language, the tension and the lack of support that exists on the backbench. It has never existed in any previous government. You can see it in their eyes when she stands up to speak; you can see it in their eyes when the member for Woodridge stands up and points his nose at the chandelier; you can see it in their eyes when the member for South Brisbane stands up and overemphasises the words like her speech and drama teacher taught her. These people resent and despise the people who lead them. They resent and despise the lack of courage, gutlessness and spinelessness that was shown in this parliament last Thursday. If they are going to lecture us about leadership, start with the do-nothing, say-nothing, be-nothing leadership that the Premier has adopted.

Mr SPEAKER: Before I call the Minister for Education, member for Callide, will you withdraw the word 'gutless'. It is unparliamentary.

Ms Trad: What about 'chicken'?

Mr SPEAKER: No. Member for Callide, I would ask you to withdraw that word, please.

Mr SEENEY: I am happy to withdraw.