

Statement

The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP

Leader of the House

Minister for Health

Minister for Ambulance Services



Friday, 27 December 2024

STATEMENT ON THE LIBERAL PARTY'S PLAN FOR CUTS

Today was a day when the Liberals should have been focused on anyone but themselves, with the state facing its worst bushfire threat in years.

But instead, the Liberals were in Parliament fighting about their fourth leader in four years.

Their emergency meeting to remove their party leader started at the same time as an emergency management meeting chaired by the Premier.

The message they have sent is clear.

Liberals don't care about Victorians in their time of need, they only care about their internal politics in their hour of chaos.

And if they get their hands on power, they'll only care about cuts, cuts, cuts. Because that's what they believe in.

Cuts to schools, hospitals, nurses, paramedics and the frontline services families rely on.

Following the hostile, hard-right takeover of the Liberal Party today, the plans for Liberal cuts will get even deeper.

Because it's the same incompetent and divided Liberal Party, but with a leader who will take them in an even more extreme direction.

Brad Battin is the most extreme Liberal leader in history.

The first thing he did as leader is outline his plan for cutting the frontline services that Victorian families rely on.

He has put together a right-wing leadership team that doesn't include a single woman.

Last month, he organised an angry rally against an Indian community in Melbourne which Nazis attended.

The rally was against the same Indian community who travelled to the Grampians this week to cook and deliver supplies for people affected by bushfires.

And no one should ever forget his bizarre and offensive claims that our state's brave firefighters didn't show up to Black Saturday.

Brad Battin is extreme and unstable and not the kind of person who should be representing Victoria and making big decisions.

He stands for cutting down leaders and cutting funds to services you need.

His hard-right politics will make life harder for migrants, renters, women and workers.

The Liberals are out of touch and out of control - and it's clear that Brad Battin's out of his depth.

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