

Maguire's refusal to quit is snub to ICAC and voters

We, the long-suffering voters, should be grateful that Daryl Maguire has no intention of quitting Parliament despite his fondness for developers, which, after all, is natural for a Coalition member ("Disgraced but defiant: MP won't quit politics", July 17). Remember the Orange byelection and the win by the Fishers/Shooters Party? Hang out until March, Mr Maguire, and then you and all your developer-friendly members of the state government can retire together.

Nola Tucker, Kiama

Have I got this right? We provide an office and a wage for Maguire to work for his constituents and the people of NSW. We are now told that he intended to use his office and position to broker various deals which mostly benefited people outside NSW and himself. We are now told that this person has the right to consider his own position. Surely I have got this wrong?

Jens Skovgaard, Lucknow

We've already heard proof of Maguire's integrity, judgment and fitness for public office. It should therefore not surprise anyone that seeing as he's missed out (he says) on that commission he so coveted, he's now decided to tough it out, Trump-like, on the benches at

nearly \$14,000 a month. Admit nothing, deny everything, demand proof and when that's provided, just ignore it. What can they do? Sue me? Knock yourselves out. In nine months he will have reaped 1.5 per cent of \$8.4 million. That's a sizeable property deal. I guess that's close to what he had in mind anyway.

Graeme Smith, Kensington



Wagga Wagga MP Daryl Maguire.

Here we go again: the NSW Parliament marching to its own out-of-tune drum compared with community expectations. Can anyone believe that it would be acceptable for a member to remain in Parliament after being called out by ICAC in such a spectacular way? The snub to the office and voters is unbelievable. Premier, if you have no power to drive out

such individuals, you need to change the rules so it can be done. This is where standards of behaviour have to rise above politics. Over to you and colleagues to show us the level of your standards.

Stephen Ramshaw, Turramurra

We need a mechanism to dispense with the services of any MP where it has been found they have acted dishonestly, corruptly or behaviourally. At every election, one candidate becomes our MP and remains so until the next election (the exception being death or resignation of the member). There is, however, no process to protect the electorate should an elected member behave in a manner such as exhibited by Mr Maguire. This is entirely unsatisfactory in a properly working democracy.

Chris Rivers, Port Macquarie

Maguire has seen fit to resign from the Liberal Party but not from his seat in Parliament. But then it's not the Liberal Party that pays his generous salary and entitlements; it's the taxpayers of NSW. This money he will continue to collect until the next election, allegedly for continuing to represent the people of Wagga. How generous of him to save us the expense of a byelection.

Stephanie Edwards, Roseville