




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

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ADJOURNMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (6.01 pm): The Palaszczuk state Labor government was inadequately prepared for such a health and economic crisis as we have seen with the COVID-19 pandemic. Even before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Queensland Labor government has had either the highest or second highest unemployment rate of any state jurisdiction, and today unemployment under Labor is 8.8 per cent. Business confidence under Labor has been the lowest of any state, and Queensland has had the highest number of bankruptcies and the highest rate of business failure. This has all been due to the incompetent Palaszczuk state Labor government. What about debt? Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, debt in Queensland under Labor was heading to \$91.8 billion, with it now projected to reach \$100 billion. This is a shameful legacy that this Labor government will leave for future generations.

Apart from its economic and jobs failure, the Palaszczuk state Labor government continues to fail on health, education, roads, public transport, cost of living and in many other important areas. This is certainly clear to the residents of the electorate of Moggill and more broadly right across the western suburbs of Brisbane. Significantly, the Liberal National Party has policies, plans and solutions to address these issues. The LNP has already announced funded solutions to bust traffic congestion, including \$245 million for the Centenary Motorway, funding to upgrade the Kenmore roundabout and, importantly, public transport and cost-of-living support for seniors and students. The Liberal National Party has also committed \$4 million for a much needed new school hall at Kenmore State High School. There is also the LNP's \$225,000 commitment to local creek catchment groups in the electorate of Moggill, as well as \$150,000 to invest in a multipurpose community centre at the Brookfield Showgrounds, and there is still so much more to come.

As the Liberal National Party's shadow minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships, can I also take this opportunity to highlight the state Labor government's failure to deliver practical measures and solutions to close the gap. It truly speaks volumes that for Queensland's Indigenous communities, Labor has now had its fourth Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships in just three years. With such a high rotation of ministerial responsibility and accountability, it is little wonder that the Palaszczuk Labor government has had such a poor track record on ensuring child welfare and community safety, particularly in Cape York. Even the Cape York Institute has had to commission the Hon. Pru Goward because concerns have been raised by Indigenous leaders regarding this Labor government's lack of response to tackling youth sexual violence in Cape York. Labor has also failed when it comes to closing the gap. However, recently the federal Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon. Ken Wyatt MP, announced a revised set of 16 Closing the Gap targets.

A Deb Frecklington LNP government will work collaboratively with all levels of government to deliver the best outcomes for Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, unlike this state Labor government, which would rather play politics and pick fights with Canberra. It is only a Frecklington LNP government that can get Queensland working again.