




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

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MOTION

Tourism Industry, Support

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (4.26 pm): This is just a cheap stunt by this government. The federal Morrison coalition government has set the overall framework for managing the health and economic crisis we have seen over the last 12 months. Through the national cabinet process Scott Morrison and the national leadership team have managed health circumstances through the Health Protection Principal Committee and the leadership of Professor Brendan Murphy and Professor Paul Kelly. Leadership was shown throughout that process by Scott Morrison, Greg Hunt and the federal Treasurer, Josh Frydenberg. When it comes to JobKeeper, JobSeeker and JobMaker, the entire federal coalition government has stepped up to the mark. As outlined by the member for Clayfield, we have a multibillion dollar rescue package that is the largest since the Second World War.

When it comes to this Palaszczuk state Labor government we have to remember that even before the COVID-19 health and economic crisis debt in Queensland was \$91.8 billion. It is now heading to \$128 billion over the forward estimates. Queensland had the highest or second highest unemployment rate compared to other states. It was consistently up at 6.5 per cent. Queensland had the highest number of business bankruptcies, and small business is hurting. Everywhere I go across Queensland chambers of commerce are talking to me about this Labor government and the lack of support they have had from the Palaszczuk state Labor government in relation to small business.

When it comes to the history of the Palaszczuk state Labor government, they were woefully unprepared for this health and economic crisis. They loaded debt onto government owned corporations. They raided the defined benefits scheme when it came to public servants in Queensland. Consistently over the years this Labor government has failed to invest in infrastructure—a fraction of what the Morrison coalition government has invested in Queensland. We have major road and public transport issues in Queensland and across South-East Queensland. It has stalled and it is in desperate need of funding. In my electorate of Moggill there is certainly additional infrastructure that needs to be provided.

The Labor government has spent \$8.8 billion on its COVID stimulus package, and that is less than a third of what the federal government has invested in Queensland—up to \$27.9 billion. When it comes to tourism, we have seen the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Buderim and the member for Currumbin up there listening to those tourist operators calling for additional support packages. In fact it is the Labor government that have taken some of those suggestions on board and adopted LNP policies when it comes to supporting the tourism sector in North Queensland. That is important and I am glad they have done that because that will have meaning there. The federal coalition government has stepped up to the mark and continues to do that and will continue to do it.