




Speech By
Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2021

MOTION

Federal Budget

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (4.34 pm): I rise to address the motion as moved by the Treasurer. This is just another cheap stunt that we see by this government each and every sitting week. They have no agenda. If we look at the *Notice Paper* for this week, there were two pieces of legislation. They have no vision and no plan. All the Labor Treasurer can do is seek to blame others rather than do the work that is required to deliver for Queensland's economy.

True to form, the Palaszczuk Labor government is once again using the federal budget to blame Canberra, to blame the federal Morrison coalition government, for Labor's own failings here in Queensland—their inability to manage Queensland's economy and to plan for the vital infrastructure that is needed here. In fact, this motion is nothing more than an admission of defeat—an admission that the Labor Premier and the Treasurer are simply not up to the task of delivering the infrastructure and services that Queensland desperately needs.

If we look at the federal Morrison coalition government's budget that was handed down, it is a jobs budget. It will create more than 250,000 jobs across Australia by the end of 2022-23. There are tax cuts—\$8 billion in new tax cuts for low- and middle-income workers. There is \$20 billion in further tax breaks for small businesses as part of a new stimulus support package. There is \$223 million to support the arts sector. There is \$1.6 billion over the next four years for preschool education. There is the significant aged-care package of \$17.7 billion to significantly improve aged care. All of these things are vitally important for Australians. That is on top of their women's safety package—an allocation of over \$1 billion—and also dollars for women's health and economic security for women. There is significant investment in hydrogen and carbon capture schemes to assist with climate adaptation. There is more money for drug and alcohol services. There is more money for proton beam therapy, as well as \$2.3 billion for mental health and suicide prevention.

What does this actually mean? When we think about the western suburbs of Brisbane, the federal Morrison coalition government is delivering for residents. It means that over 60,000 locals will receive more than \$2,000 in tax relief this year. The child-care measures will ensure that over 1,500 local families will benefit from increased childcare subsidies in the western suburbs of Brisbane. The aged-care measures will mean that 20,400 seniors in the western suburbs will benefit not only from additional home care places but also from the additional funding allocated to residential aged care. There is also the further investment in subsidising additional medicines on the PBS. This is a strong budget. It is a good budget. It is a good budget for the western suburbs of Brisbane and certainly for residents who live there.