



Speech by

Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE

MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

Hansard 19 July 2000

UNEMPLOYMENT

Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE (Surfers Paradise—NPA) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.08 a.m.): A political generation ago, a now discredited Labor leader promised that no child would live in poverty by 1990. Today, two years after the promise was made that under his Government unemployment would be reduced to 5%, we see that core election promise of an increasingly discredited Labor leader being revealed as the shonky, fraudulent political sham that it was. That result was promised in three years, it was promised in four years, and it was promised in five years. The reality is that the current Premier made a promise that he knew in his heart he simply could not deliver. He did so for cheap, cynical, political purposes. We see now this man and his own Government disowning that political promise of 5% unemployment made just two years ago. We see under his stewardship economic growth in the State of Queensland declining from 5.7% under the coalition Government to 3.75% under his Government. We see jobs growth in Queensland declining from 3.2% under the National/Liberal coalition Government to just 2%; under "Mr jobs, jobs, jobs 5%".

We see the savage decline in terms of private sector investment. What we see above all else is the destruction of the credibility of the Premier and his Government in terms of his core election promise of a 5% jobless rate under his stewardship, under his Government. It is a fraud and a sham.

Time expired.
