




Speech by

Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR STAFFORD

Hansard Tuesday, 29 November 2011

MOTION: BLIGH LABOR GOVERNMENT

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Stafford—ALP) (Minister for Employment, Skills and Mining) (5.50 pm): I support the amendment. Labor governments always have their sights set firmly on Queensland's future. This Bligh government continues in that great tradition. Because we have planned, Queensland's future is now better and brighter than ever. That is why we will create an education trust with \$1.8 billion over 10 years from future LNG royalties. We have planned investment in the skills and training of a new generation of Queenslanders, which is our investment in their future. Our CoalPlan 2030 is mapping out a great future for the coal industry, which is the cornerstone of the state's strong economy. We have planned for the expansion of the north-west minerals province, which is providing great opportunities. Just this week we heard great announcements from the north-west. We have planned for a massive expansion of the CSG to LNG industry, which will deliver decades of jobs for Queenslanders.

While I am talking about jobs, we have a record on the delivery of jobs and we have plans for the future. Our Jobs Plan created 700,000 jobs since 1998 and 90,000 jobs since March 2009. We are delivering on our commitment to create 100,000 jobs. We have released nation-leading infrastructure plans. First we released the SEQ Infrastructure Plan and now we have released a Queensland Infrastructure Plan. We are the first state to have such a detailed and comprehensive map for the future. We have introduced statutory regional planning across vast tracts of the state. I notice that in the opposition there are some recent converts to statutory regional planning, after they have opposed it on every occasion they have had the opportunity to do so over the past few years. We have introduced statutory regional planning to manage the future of our thriving regions.

We have worked shoulder to shoulder with industry to plan for the future development of the Galilee coal basin, providing a whole new set of terrific opportunities that will see continued jobs growth and growth in the great resources industry. We have established state development areas across the state in places that are making a huge difference in how we can deliver and provide great opportunities into the future, such as the state development areas around Townsville and Gladstone. Those state development areas are making a huge difference. It is Labor who planned for those. It is Labor who provided for those state development areas. We have created Skills Queensland to ensure that Queensland's industries have the skilled workforces they need long into the future. We have appointed the first-ever independent gas commissioner to map out the future gas needs for our fast-growing state.

We have sound policies and sensible, workable plans for the future. On the other hand, the LNP has a series of wishy-washy discussion papers and so-called strategies, all uncostered and all pie in the sky. The LNP is clueless when it comes to planning for the future. With 'Captain Hindsight' in charge, they are more back to the future rather than looking to the future. In their back to the future we would see Russ Hinze, who should have worn dark glasses and held a cane when he stood under that flashing neon sign and said that there were no brothels in the Valley. In their back to the future they should have knocked down Terry Lewis rather than Cloudland. The LNP has a long association with poor planners and poor performers with poor judgement.

Now we see intelligent sideline comment from people such as the member for Condamine, who said that the resources plan needs more work. That is what the member for Condamine said, and it certainly

does. In her contribution the Premier said that there was nothing in the resources strategy. However, there was something. There was a commitment to underfund or defund safety. There was a commitment to take away the levy from industry and to put the cost back onto the taxpayers, which would have an absolutely terrible outcome. I reiterate that the opposition is incapable of planning for the future. They cannot plan their immediate future. They cannot even plan when to be in parliament. To paraphrase John F. Kennedy—and I know my friend the Minister for Education and Industrial Relations will appreciate this—the future is made by those people who show up. The future is being made by Queensland Labor. The future is being made by the Bligh Labor government. The future is not even part of the calculation of this short-termist, unsighted, under-performing LNP opposition.