




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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MOTION: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, BUDGET

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (6.03 pm): I rise to support the Treasurer's amendment to the motion before the House. For generations a conservative government has had to replace a socialist, ineffective Labor government. They waste, they spend, they fail to look after Australians and they leave the economy in a mess. They rely on good governments, like the LNP government in Queensland and the federal coalition government, to fix up the mess.

The incoming federal coalition government is facing the same financial legacy that our government experienced in Queensland: a budget in deficit, growing debt and inflated revenue estimates. I was interested to read that of the top 17 IMF surveyed countries Labor has left us with the fastest growth in spending of any one country in the world. We also have the third highest growth in debt of any one of those countries in the world. The federal Labor debt is projected to reach some \$667 billion in the next 10 years. This is a result of overgoverning and untamed spending by the former federal Labor government.

When we came to government some two years ago, the QTC said the state debt had reached unprecedented levels. The unrealistic forward revenue forecasts and the out-of-control spending left our government with no choice but to rectify the situation. If I can touch on the simple hypocrisy of those opposite and their failure to stand up for Queenslanders when Labor was in power federally: what hypocrisy from this overstuffed, inept Labor opposition to call on our effective government to stand up to the federal government over any moves that might adversely affect Queenslanders. What did those opposite do in relation to the carbon tax? One of those opposite voted for it—what an embarrassment—and increased every single power bill of every single Queenslanders by up to eight per cent. What about the 30 new increased taxes and charges since 2007? What did those opposite do to protect Queenslanders and where were they? Asleep on the job and not standing up for their fellow Queenslanders! Their own inept practices in our great state saw the bungled health payroll system. Since coming to power the LNP Newman-led government has increased nurses' pay by 10 per cent. What did those opposite do? They did not even pay their nurses and just forgot all about them. It was incredible. Where were those opposite when the former federal Treasurer ripped some \$340 million out of our state government?

In the time left I would like to touch on the strong choices that must be made, not just by Queenslanders but by all Australians. What have the current federal and state LNP governments delivered for Queensland in the short time that the federal coalition has been in power: an investment of \$794 million under the Abbott government Student First initiative; \$131 million has been provided to all Queensland state schools in 2014 through the Great Results Guarantee—and I know that the principals of my local electorate are very proud of this; total funding of \$10 billion for the Bruce Highway—and we all know the member for Mulgrave's thoughts on that: he does not care for that at all; delivering a combined \$1.7 billion in funding to get the Toowoomba second range crossing off the ground, something the previous Labor state government never even thought about or came close to achieving; and securing \$1 billion for the Gateway upgrade north. This has been achieved by both governments while dealing with the financial mess left by the Labor federal government and the financial mess left by those inept Labor members opposite.