




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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MOTION

Newman Government, Performance

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (6.11 pm): It is with pride that I rise in this House today to support the Treasurer's amendment to the motion before the House.

Mr Gibson: It is with pleasure that we listen to you.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Thank you, member for Gympie. What needs to be reiterated is the \$85.4 billion of Labor debt. That is what those opposite have strangely forgotten. It is almost like a parallel universe for them. They bleat on about all of the things that they think we have not done. Let me tell you, Madam Speaker, that the electorate of Nanango is benefiting from this common-sense government. I could list numerous items from previous budgets that have benefitted our electorate, but a perfect example which those opposite have completely forgotten about is the nurses. In our term of government we have increased their pay by an incredible 10 per cent. I can see the member for Redcliffe over there smiling away because she is so pleased about that. Our schools are now being maintained and children can actually go to school in schools that have paint which is on the walls and not peeling off onto their desks.

I am very proud to have signed the contract for the improvement to front-line services such as the elective surgery waitlist and cuts to ambulance ramping. The previous administration was proud of ambulance ramping, proud of their long waitlists and proud of regional hospitals having no services. They did not care that you could not have any operation in the South Burnett regional hospital, but our government has now put in a rural general surgeon. How wonderful is that! My seniors love that because they can now have operations that they used to have to travel outside of the region for because that was the Labor way. Not only that, but as well we have doubled the patient travel subsidy for those people travelling out of the regions.

Mr Johnson interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I do take the honourable Vaughan Johnson's interjection: they did not care about the regions. But our government is not just about the south-east corner; we are about the whole of Queensland. Queenslanders want a grown-up sensible government that looks after all Queenslanders and not just the crazy green groups. When we talk about the services that we have delivered, there are now an extra 761 teachers and teacher aides in our schools. We have 11,612 police now on the beat. We have spent millions of dollars on much needed regional road repairs that have been neglected for many years. There has been more maintenance done on the roads in the Nanango electorate in the last two years than there has been in the last 10.

Those opposite might laugh at how proud I am that money is being spent in the regions and in electorates like Nanango, but that is because I am part of a government that does represent all Queensland. This is where it gets interesting: what is the plan of those opposite? What is your plan? I

think Steven Wardill of the *Courier-Mail* got it right on the weekend. I think the headline was 'Laboring for new ideas' and he said—

Annastacia Palaszczuk's Labor Party appears to be struggling to come up with anything of substance to offer voters before next year's election.

...

Annastacia Palaszczuk, the Queensland Opposition leader, has doggedly pursued a small-target approach and shown little appetite for new ideas.

In contrast our government has a strong plan and, unlike Labor, a strong team for a stronger Queensland.