




Speech By
Hon. Curtis Pitt

MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Newman LNP Government

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships) (10.22 am): It is not often that a state government in Australia discusses printing of currency as an economic strategy. We know the hyperinflationary potential when a government ramps up production of its own currency. We saw it in Zimbabwe in the 2000s, but thankfully these matters are not a concern here in Queensland with the currency we are talking about today, because this particular currency has essentially no value. One would struggle to find any market willing to trade in it. Of course I am talking about Campbell currency.

Recognising the damage that his cuts had done to slow the Queensland economy, the former premier tried one last roll of the dice—quantitative easing. A new colonial currency was birthed on the 15th floor. When I was in primary school I used to love grandad's trick where a gold coin magically appeared from behind his ear. Mr Speaker, look: it is magic time today. I read on the weekend about the former premier's arrogance knowing no bounds. This was all about a self-indulgent ego trip. Thankfully, the former premier did not get his way in having them this size. Thank goodness, he ended up with a smaller version which I have here. I table one in the parliament for prosperity.

The Lord Mayor of Brisbane—what is this one doing here? This was the coin that started it all. If I had a coin for every dollar that the LNP wasted when it was in office, I would be in King's Landing and I would be the Master of Coin sitting next to the member for Kawana, Joffrey Baratheon.

This is of very serious concern. What we know is that this was absolutely typical of the former government's self-indulgent attitude. At a time that it was asking Queenslanders to tighten their belts and overseeing tens of thousands of public servants going, we saw the former premier mint coins so he could hand them out to visiting dignitaries. This is a concern because over 1,000 of these coins, member for Caloundra, were put out there. It is a big concern because at least half of them had the former premier's name on them. This is of great concern because ultimately this was, as I said, an exercise in pure self-indulgence. I do not know whether these coins were used for government decision-making, an early election or Strong Choices. We do not know how they made their decisions but frankly—

Ms Trad: Tim or Lawrence.

Mr PITT: Tim. Also Tim. I do not know, Mr Speaker, but this is another example of the former government's self-indulgence and Queenslanders, frankly, have had enough of it.