



Speech By John-Paul Langbroek

MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

Mr LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (10.22 am): This morning we heard the Treasurer waxing lyrical about economic growth figures over the last quarter and the last couple of years, so let us have a look at the facts, because on Tuesday he was out here with rubbery coins, and today he has rubbery figures. When we look at economic growth figures, the Australian Bureau of Statistics does not even report quarterly. He has obviously taken the gross state product and deducted net exports to come up with some cleverly concocted figures. I am happy to look at the economic figures over the last six years.

As reported annually under the Labor government, at June 2009 economic growth was one per cent; June 2010, 1.4 per cent; June 2011—still the Bligh government, which I know is a bad memory for many of us—1.1 per cent; and June 2012, 4.7 per cent. That was when the LNP government had been in for three months. If we add the 4.7 per cent to those other three years, the average growth over the last four years of their government was two per cent. Economic growth is set to average more than four per cent in the years to 2016-17, and that comes from the 2014-15 MYFER. In June 2013—yes, the LNP government—it was 3.1 per cent, and in June 2014 economic growth in Queensland was 2.3 per cent.

The two times which the Treasurer spoke about recessions happening in Queensland were under the Goss government and under the Bligh government. The LNP government left Queensland on a strong trajectory of growth, and by next year Queensland is forecast to have the strongest economic growth of any state in Australia. That economic growth of 5¾ per cent is in the MYFER, but of course the Treasurer could not tell the facts this morning. He had to concoct some figures that are not even produced by the ABS. I challenge him to produce the papers that he read from this morning, because they are not ABS statistics. As he did on Tuesday, he is using it as a distraction because he has nothing but magic tricks. He is just like Mandrake the Magician: he has nothing. He does not want to talk about the promised budget that is supposedly going to reduce debt. Those opposite have jettisoned their election promises because they cannot tell us how they are going to pay for them. There are numerous instances where they have not been able to explain their strategy for merging energy companies, and Rod Sims has already called that into question.

This is a government that is on a path to nowhere with a Treasurer who is making up statistics as he goes along. I invite him to table those statistics so we can see that actual growth under the LNP government was stronger than it has been under the previous Labor governments which brought in those recessions under Premiers Goss and Bligh.