




Speech By
Hon. Curtis Pitt

MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

Record of Proceedings, 13 September 2016

APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2)

Message from Governor

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport) (12.42 pm): I present a message from His Excellency the Governor.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Farmer): The message from His Excellency recommends the Appropriation Bill (No. 2). The contents of the message will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the message for the information of members.

MESSAGE

APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 2016

Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, PAUL de JERSEY AC, Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intitled—

A Bill for an Act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the consolidated fund for particular departments for the financial year starting 1 July 2015


(sgd)

GOVERNOR

Date: 13 SEP 2016

Tabled paper: Message, dated 13 September 2016, from His Excellency the Governor recommending the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2016 [[1484](#)].

Introduction

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport) (12.43 pm): I present a bill for an act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the Consolidated Fund for particular departments for the financial year starting 1 July 2015. I table the bill and explanatory notes. I nominate the Finance and Administration Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2016 [[1485](#)].

Tabled paper: Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2016, explanatory notes [[1486](#)].

The Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2016 provides supplementary appropriation for unforeseen expenditure in 2015-16. Unforeseen expenditure is the term used to describe payments from the Consolidated Fund above the amount approved by annual appropriation on an individual department basis. Although called 'expenditure' it can also relate to the additional repayment of debt.

Today, I tabled the 2015-16 *Consolidated Fund financial report*, or CFFR, which outlines, by department, total appropriation from the Consolidated Fund for the financial year. The CFFR includes any unforeseen expenditure and provides explanations on a department basis for variations from the approved annual appropriation amount.

The bill seeks parliamentary approval of supplementary appropriation for unforeseen expenditure incurred by eight departments in the 2015-16 financial year of \$390.126 million. Of the total \$390.126 million, \$296.985 million was for Queensland Treasury which it used to pay down debt under this government's enhanced Debt Action Plan. The \$296.985 million came from extra dividends received from government owned corporations—the corporations those opposite were so eager to sell. The additional funds were then appropriated to Queensland Treasury which it used to pay down debt.

The additional unforeseen expenditure required in this bill is a good-news story for the Queensland budget as it shows yet again that debt reduction does not need to rely on taking the easy option of asset sales. Under Labor debt is lower, unemployment is lower and economic growth is higher. The Palaszczuk government has undertaken budget repair that is fair.

In contrast, what the opposition leader called 'fiscal repair' was code for sackings and cuts. It has been four years since the opposition leader delivered his first budget, where he acted like the grim reaper and sacked 14,000 public servants who Campbell Newman had previously promised had nothing to fear. During this time, Queenslanders, particularly in regional Queensland, closed their wallets and stopped spending. By 2014-15, under the member for Clayfield as treasurer, economic growth had slowed to 0.8 per cent.

In addition to the debt repayment by Treasury, for other departments the appropriation in 2015-16 was \$1.963 billion less than originally expected. The introduction into parliament of the bill for supplementary appropriation on the same day as the tabling of the CFFR enables parliamentary scrutiny of unforeseen expenditure.

First Reading

Hon. CW PITT (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport) (12.46 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to the Finance and Administration Committee

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Farmer): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.