




Speech By
Hon. Curtis Pitt

MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Trump, President-Elect of the United States

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport) (9.44 am): I want to compliment the member for Hervey Bay on his shirt today. Yesterday Donald Trump was elected the 45th President of the United States. It looks as though the Republicans will continue to control the House of Representatives and Senate. The US election outcome surprised many around the world, particularly the markets. It is too early to determine what the medium- to long-term impacts will be. The immediate reaction yesterday in the Asia-Pacific saw a flight to deemed safe-harbour assets. However, markets rebounded strongly overnight as the president's more conciliatory acceptance speech saw the US equity market finish in positive territory. The markets were also encouraged overnight by the potential for accelerated real GDP growth next year due to the promises of fiscal stimulus in the form of lower taxes, including income tax rates, capital gains and corporate tax rates, less regulatory oversight and increases to Defence and public infrastructure spending under a Trump presidency.

While there is likely to be considerable volatility in financial markets in the near term, how the result plays out for the global economy and trade is likely to take years depending on what policies are actually implemented. What we do know is that the US is the world's largest economy, with GDP of US\$18,037 billion in 2015. The United States is Queensland's fourth largest merchandise trading partner and in 2015-16 our exports to the US totalled \$2.0 billion and our imports \$4.8 billion.

The US and Queensland have had a long and valued history as trading partners and we share close cultural ties. This all adds up to a very important strategic relationship between Queensland and the United States. We as a government will ensure that continues. Queensland's economic success is supported by a vibrant export sector and our continuing success is helped by keeping global trade open and free. I would like to reaffirm to the House and to our key international trading partners in the Asia-Pacific and beyond that Queensland remains open for business and investment. The government is committed to maintaining our strong international relationships and to exploring new opportunities to drive economic growth and jobs in Queensland. The government will continue to monitor impacts on the markets and impacts on our trade relationships for our trading partners.