



Speech By  
**Tim Nicholls**


**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.29 am): For the past 40 minutes, I have been listening with some amusement to the statements made by those on the other side of the House, particularly the statement of the Treasurer. He says he wants to talk up the economy, but he says that because it is the only thing he has. He has only talk. He has no plan, he has no money and he has no new jobs except jobs for mates.

In the past two weeks, what have we learned about this government? It is a government of unions by union lackeys for union thugs! The most number of industrial disputes in the nation have occurred here in Queensland, and what does this government do about it? Nothing! The unions run riot on work places, putting jobs at risk and adding 30 per cent to the cost of construction in Queensland. What does this government do about it? It does nothing!

In this state, unemployment is at 6.5 per cent, which is the second worst rate in the nation, at a time when, in the rest of the nation, rates are going the other way. What have we learned about youth unemployment? It is up to 15 per cent, which is a figure unmatched in this nation. In the past two months over 36,000 jobs have been lost and in the past month over 6,000 full-time jobs have been lost. That has been as a result of the actions of this government, but the only thing they can do about it is talk.

Members opposite have come into this place, but they know they are failing. As we travel the state, we talk to small businesses, large businesses and councils and they all lament that this government is asleep at the wheel; this government does not have a plan; this government cannot show them where the money is coming from; this government is driving their businesses and their councils into the ground. We hear that lament no matter where we are, from Cairns to Currumbin and from Brisbane to Bedourie. That is what is going on.

Today we learn: two Labor budgets and two raids on superannuation funds. They never saw someone else's money without wanting to get their hands on it and waste it. What have Labor luminaries said? They have just been extolling Mr Peter Beattie. What did he say about it? He said that that money is put aside to fund superannuation benefits. What did Andrew Fraser say? He said that that money is not put aside to pay for petrol in the tanks, wages and electricity. What did Terry Mackenroth say? He said that we are putting money away for superannuation and long service leave. Only the LNP can deliver in Queensland.

*(Time expired).*