



Speech By  
**Bruce Saunders**


**MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH**

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Record of Proceedings, 1 March 2017

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**Maryborough Electorate, Manufacturing**

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (2.50 pm): The peanut gallery is very active today. I wonder what was in the Kool-Aid they drank today. I am proud to be the member for Maryborough and proud to be in the Palaszczuk government because we are delivering local manufacturing jobs in regional Queensland. I am happy to stand on the record for my electorate, and the Palaszczuk government is delivering. We are delivering day in and day out in manufacturing in regional Queensland, especially with Downer rail. Members of the previous government should hang their heads in shame for the \$4.4 billion worth of new generation rolling stock from India. They exported the jobs from Maryborough in Queensland to India. How do they feel about that? They are the greatest exporters in Queensland! They have exported all of our industries and exported jobs—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock.

**Mr Nicholls** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Thank you, but I am on my feet, Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr SAUNDERS:** In 2014 the member for Clayfield and the member for Indooroopilly were trumpeting this, and I remember it quite well because I was in business in Maryborough when they were trumpeting the half-price trains and that they were saving the taxpayers. I remember standing in my shop in Maryborough and seeing that people were very disappointed. One of the quotes that will always stay in my memory to the day I die was when the former LNP member for Maryborough said that Ipswich needs jobs too. Shame! She said that Ipswich need jobs when they were talking about the rolling stock going to Ipswich.

Judging by the number of issues that the Palaszczuk government has had to work through to get the LNP trains on the tracks, it is very clear—and I back the words that the Deputy Premier said—that you get what you pay for. Building these trains in India hurt people in our community and certainly hurt people in Maryborough. Downer and Maryborough have a very proud history of building trains for Queenslanders. In fact, 299 was the first train ever built—it was called Walkers in those days—for Queensland Rail. That train, 299, is still in Maryborough and it is being restored at the moment.

Downer is one of the great companies and the management, the unions and the workers get on so well and they build fantastic trains that are world class—so much so that the Western Australian government gets it to build its trains, but the LNP government in Queensland could not. They think they are good enough in Western Australia, but they were not good enough for this LNP government. Those opposite are the traitors of Maryborough. They sold the great city of Maryborough out and we will never, ever let them forget it. We will never let them forget it.

*(Time expired)*