



Speech By  
**Bruce Saunders**


**MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2017

**MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Achievements; Maryborough Hospital**

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (12.03 pm): Wow, they have an employment plan! As a result of the last employment plan they had we lost hundreds and hundreds of public servants across the Wide Bay region. They took a great city like Maryborough and brought it to its knees. The member for Kawana has the audacity to stand here and tell us that in 2½ years they have changed, but leopards do not change their spots. The lot of them dislike Queenslanders. All they can do is sack Queenslanders. The only thing the LNP did when they were in government was lengthen the unemployment line.

This Palaszczuk government is a traditional Labor government. This Labor government is about jobs, health and housing. The Newman-Nicholls government was a traditional LNP government and they have not changed. Look at what they are doing federally. When they come in here they talk the talk, but if they are elected they will walk the walk because all we will see grow under the LNP is more job cutbacks. They will sell assets and cut back jobs.

**Ms Pease** interjected.

**Mr SAUNDERS:** I will take that interjection from the member for Lytton, because she knows firsthand that what happened in her electorate was the same as what happened in mine when the LNP were last in government. When you compare their record to our record, their record is a blank piece of paper. That is all they achieved for Queensland. When you look at what the Palaszczuk Labor government has achieved in my electorate, \$12.7 million has been invested for projects that will keep locals employed; \$4.5 million for a brand new school hall at Maryborough High School; \$1 million for a music hall at Tinana State School—jobs, jobs, jobs and more local jobs; and roadworks in the Wide Bay and particularly in the Maryborough electorate. We are seeing more and more roadworks, which means more local jobs.

We on this side care about people. That is our mantra. We make sure that people have a job and food on the table. All those opposite worry about is letting their mates suck on the taxpayers' teat. We know those opposite want to put public money into private pockets, reduce services and sack people. The minister, the member for Redcliffe, is here. When we talk about Skilling Queenslanders for Work, what a great program that is. I was saddened to hear members opposite laugh when we were talking about Skilling Queenslanders for Work. It was disgraceful.

**Ms Pease:** Shocking!

**Mr SAUNDERS:** It was absolutely disgraceful. I will take that interjection from the member for Lytton. We are talking about people's livelihoods, we are talking about people who pay mortgages and we are talking about training our young people and getting them back into work. I know what a great success the program has been in my electorate, and those opposite have the hide to sit there and laugh and throw silly comments at the minister. I was disgusted. As the local member, I have seen how great

this program is and how many people's lives it has changed in my electorate in the 27 months that this government has been in power. I would like to thank the minister because it is a marvellous project. When I go back to my electorate on Friday I am going to make sure that I tell everyone what those opposite did when we talked about Skilling Queenslanders for Work.

The Maryborough hospital turned 130 on Saturday and we had a great celebration. I would like to thank the Minister for Health because he has come good. After everything had been stripped out of the hospital after three years of an LNP government, the health minister has come good and is restoring all the services we lost. It was the only hospital on the east coast of Australia without pathology and this Labor government restored it. A public servant and his wife approached me and said that they sleep easier at night now because they know there will be no mass sackings under the Palaszczuk Labor government when the budget comes out.