




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR BANCROFT

Record of Proceedings, 3 May 2018

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (2.52 pm): On Monday we celebrate Labour Day. There are many reasons to celebrate Labour Day in Queensland, and that is because many workers are now finding jobs under the Palaszczuk government because we are marshalling one of the best economic performances in Australia. The economic performance of the Palaszczuk government is powering business confidence and business investment in Queensland.

The NAB Monthly Business Survey showed that business conditions in Queensland in February were the highest of any state. The first quarter of this year was the strongest quarter for consumer confidence in Queensland since 2010, and the December quarter economic data showed an 11.8 per cent increase in business investment for Queensland last year. There is more business confidence and more investment, and that means more jobs. Nearly 160,000 jobs have been created since the Palaszczuk government came into office. Ninety per cent of those are in the private sector. That means that 4,000 jobs have been created each month, and that includes the more than 75,000 full-time jobs that were created in 2017 alone.

More Queenslanders are looking for jobs than are getting them, and one of the Queensland workers reaping the benefits of this increased confidence and investment is Trudy. I first met Trudy at the North Lakes Sports Club last year. That club is a \$25 million investment in our local community. It was the first greenfield club built in Queensland in 20 years and it has created over 120 local jobs.

Last weekend I met Trudy at the brand-new North Lakes Hotel. That is a development by local developer KeyMax. It is a Great Western hotel with 46 rooms overlooking Lake Eden. It has conference facilities and 11 different combinations of rooms to cater for all kinds of functions, meetings and events. Trudy, a local worker, was able to move into an even better job in the hotel as a restaurant manager. Trudy's story shows what can happen through increased investment by business in Queensland, and her story shows that Queensland workers have a lot to celebrate on Labour Day.

Queensland workers do not have a lot to celebrate if they look at the performance of the Turnbull government. It is clear that the LNP are an economic drag on Queensland. Their performance federally is letting us down here in Queensland. Let us look at one economic metric. Jim Chalmers MP pointed out that federal debt has hit \$523.9 billion under the federal LNP. Debt is accumulating \$1.23 billion faster in these rosier economic times than under federal Labor. It is very clear that the LNP are not better economic managers. They left that behind years ago. While we in Queensland forge ahead in our economy and economic growth, the performance of the LNP is a drag on the Queensland economy and Queensland workers.