



Speech By Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

Record of Proceedings, 14 June 2018

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; BETTING TAX BILL

Ms PEASE (Lytton—ALP) (11.55 pm): I am really proud to rise here today to speak in support of the Appropriation Bill delivered by the Hon. Jackie Trad MP. I congratulate the Treasurer on her first budget. I also congratulate the Premier and all of the ministers on this impressive budget, and what a really great budget it is for each and every Queenslander.

This great Labor budget is responding to the needs of Queensland and is setting out a clear economic plan to: create jobs in a strong economy, build an economy for the future, attract investment and build infrastructure, support our regions, protect our magnificent Great Barrier Reef, keep Queenslanders healthy and deliver a great start for our children—our future. We are delivering the things we said we would and, as the Treasurer said, there are no excuses and no surprises. We are meeting our election pledges and these will pump up our local economies.

Under the LNP Newman government we baysiders suffered. We were punished. I have spoken often in this place of the services that were ripped out of our community: our child safety office was closed, department of housing office was closed, bayside tenancy advice was closed, caravan and mobile home residents association was closed and there were reduced hours for doctors in primary health care and of course the scandalous closing of the Moreton Bay Nursing Care Unit.

Government members: Shame!

Ms PEASE: Yes and I am sure that happened across all of Queensland. What a difference baysiders are experiencing under the Palaszczuk Labor government. Locally, we have seen a huge injection in health funding and I am really proud that the \$13 million Gundu Pa, Wynnum Manly's community health centre, opened last year and we have a new ambulance station which is due to open in coming weeks. This budget will see a record investment in health, which means that we will see extra doctors, nurses and midwives who will have access to the best facilities to ensure that we deliver world-class health care in our public hospitals, ambulance services and facilities as well as mental health, drug and alcohol services, community health services, and research and scientific services.

We know that education is fundamental to every public good and ensuring that our students have access to quality education and facilities is paramount. This budget delivers a record \$14.1 billion in education and training, which will mean not only more teachers but improvements in our schools and training facilities. Wynnum State High School students are set to benefit from the Palaszczuk government's \$250 million budget commitment to build additional classrooms to support a new era in Queensland education from 2020. In 2020 Queensland secondary schools will have their first full complement of secondary students from years 7 to 12. This '2020 Ready' funding boost will support Wynnum State High School to accommodate their first full complement of secondary students in years 7 to 12.

I am so proud to be part of the Palaszczuk government, which is delivering this important infrastructure needed to ensure that our Wynnum State High School students will have access to a world-class education. This \$3.4 million investment will see a new two-storey secondary learning centre with additional classrooms, and there will be a further \$400,000 to refurbish block I general learning areas at the school. I know that teachers and students are really looking forward to this infrastructure project, and I hope that construction does not cause too many disruptions to their lessons.

Wondall Heights State School will receive funding to build shade structures for their outdoor classrooms, and Manly West State School—which is this year celebrating their 60th anniversary—will receive \$120,000 for their outdoor learning area at block B. What a nice anniversary present! Here is to another 60 years, Manly West State School. Eleven of our local schools will benefit from the \$562,000 allocated across the electorate for maintenance. The Hemmant Flexible Learning Centre, which is a fabulous school that provides opportunities for students who fall through the cracks, will receive funding to rectify overland flow and drainage issues.

I am delighted that since 2015 the Palaszczuk government has employed an additional 3,634 teachers and 1,135 teacher aides. May I acknowledge the great work of all of our local teachers and thank them for their dedication, commitment and professionalism. Our bayside students are so fortunate to have such a cohort of professionals guiding them into the future, ensuring that each and every student reaches their full potential. This government values teachers, and I acknowledge their contribution to Queensland.

Commuters will be delighted with the upgrade to the Lindum train station park-and-ride, with \$1.2 million out of the \$5 million total spend to upgrade that facility. This upgrade will see increased car spaces and secure bicycle facilities for commuters, which will mean more cars off the road.

The game-changing infrastructure project Cross River Rail is being driven by the Palaszczuk government. Cross River Rail will drive job creation and economic prosperity with an average of 1,500 jobs each year and 3,000 jobs in the most intensive year of construction. It will also result in removing the bottleneck of trains on the South-East Queensland rail network, allowing more trains to run more often and reducing travel times for baysiders.

I am also delighted that my calls on behalf of the Wynnum Manly community to clean up Wynnum Creek have been heard. We will see an increase in funding to assist with the removal of abandoned vessels. There is still more work to be done to stop these rogues who dump their boats in our bayside creeks, and I look forward to working with the Minister for Transport and Main Roads to stop this shocking behaviour. Agriculture and Fisheries will continue to protect our biosecurity with continuing efforts to eradicate fire ants to stop the further spread of threats.

Skilling Queenslanders for Work is another incredibly successful initiative that the Palaszczuk government reintroduced in 2015. Not only does Skilling Queenslanders for Work support jobs for Queenslanders; it also assists those who need extra support through tailored community based opportunities. Since 2015 more than 28,000 Queenslanders have been assisted through Skilling Queenslanders for Work, including 340 in the bayside, to either return to school, study or to find employment. The Palaszczuk government recognises the value of this important program and has boosted funding to increase workforce participation through a range of skills and training.

The survivors of institutional child sexual abuse have access to the national redress scheme, with \$500 million allocated to enable access to funding, counselling and support for those who experienced this terrible abuse. Whilst no amount of money can ever return a lost childhood, this commitment will support healing and recovery.

We also understand that Queenslanders in need are feeling cost-of-living pressures, and we have a responsibility to listen and help. The Palaszczuk Labor government is committed to reducing cost-of-living impacts on households and small businesses and has increased concessions to a total of \$5.6 billion, which is an increase of \$200 million over last year.

This is a great Labor budget. We are creating jobs and a strong economy and we are building for our future. We are attracting investment and building infrastructure. We are supporting our regions, protecting our magnificent Great Barrier Reef for the future, and we are keeping Queenslanders healthy and delivering a great start for our future through our children. I commend the bills to the House.