




Speech By
Tim Mander
MEMBER FOR EVERTON

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MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Federal Budget

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.16 pm): I am really pleased that Queensland received some good economic news last week, but it came from Canberra; it did not come from William Street. The 2018 federal budget was a great win for Queenslanders. The coalition government handed down what we would have to say is a very nice set of figures. The national economy is about to grow by three per cent next year and wages are set to grow by 2.75 per cent. Workers, whom the other side of the House claim they stand up for, will get an extra \$530 per year because of tax cuts. It is great to see money going back to Queensland taxpayers. It is their money, they have earned it and they deserve to be able to spend it.

The contrast with the Palaszczuk government could not be any starker. This government does not know how to cut taxes; this government knows how to increase taxes. That is the stark difference between Labor governments and LNP and coalition governments. We believe in small government, not interfering government. We believe in responsible economic management, not wasteful spending of taxpayers' money. That is what this Labor government gives.

In the first five months of this government's term in office, the only thing we have heard about is five new taxes. Those taxes will affect Queenslanders right across the state and impact on confidence for those who want to invest in the state. In contrast, the federal budget contained much more than tax cuts; it also spoke about record infrastructure spending. The Leader of the Opposition has already detailed some of those great projects.

As the Treasurer continues to bag this great budget, she compares us to other states. She compares the investment in Victoria with what is happening here, but fails to mention that the federal government's infrastructure investment in Queensland is three times that of New South Wales.

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr MANDER: I take the interjection of the member for Broadwater: members opposite also fail to mention that the federal government does not discriminate based on who is running a state. It is rewarding good government in Victoria. Even though Victoria has a Labor government, occasionally they do a couple of good things. One thing they are good at is cooperating with the federal government.

That side of parliament in this state cannot cooperate with the federal government. All they do is bag, bag, bag and bag. We on this side of the House play a little game. We have side bets on how long it will take one of the ministers to bag the federal government in their ministerial statements. The Minister for Health has the record. There is conjecture whether it was four seconds or eight seconds, but it did not take long. It did not take long to bag the federal government. That is the only thing they know how to do.

The Treasurer complained this morning that the M1 funding was not coming next year. At the state election Labor promised \$231 million for the M1. No-one has a clue where that money is coming from. Their election costings showed that we will only see \$55 million of that \$231 million before 2022. These people have the hide to talk about money being in the forward estimates when their federal counterparts have in the past had monopoly money estimates with regard to health and education.

Mr Krause: Ten years on.

Mr MANDER: Ten years on they continue to try to fool the public. They are doing the same thing at the state level as well.

The federal government has put money on the table. This Labor government needs to match that and stop the petty politics. Let us get the infrastructure built in this state that Queenslanders deserve and are demanding.