



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

---

Record of Proceedings, 15 November 2018

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Unemployment**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.07 pm): The once mighty Queensland economy today has gone from bad to worse. The latest statistics that have come out today state that, when it comes to unemployment, Queensland is now dead last in this country. We are the only state whose unemployment rate in the last month has got worse. We are the only state whose unemployment rate begins with a '6'. This is a sad indictment on the economic management of this government.

Let us look at some of the statistics. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rates are as follows: in New South Wales, 4.4 per cent; in Victoria, 4.5 per cent; in South Australia, 5.4 per cent; in Western Australia, 5.7 per cent; and in that economic powerhouse of Tasmania, 5.3 per cent. Coming in sixth and dead last is Queensland at 6.3 per cent. This is when the national unemployment rate under the coalition government has gone down and is at a five-year low at five per cent.

There are now 165,291 unemployed Queenslanders on trend terms in this state. In the last month, there has been an increase of 1,227. In the last month, 546 jobs were cut in this state. The incredibly ironic thing about this is that this is despite this government employing an extra 25,000 public servants—and we still have the worst unemployment rate. This is just another statistic. When it comes to the state of the economy in Queensland, the Premier and the Deputy Premier have their heads in the sand like ostriches. They are ignoring every indicator, every lobby group, every peak group that says that Queensland is flatlining and going backwards with regard to every economic indicator. As the Leader of the Opposition said, we have finished the year as we began. We are a laughing-stock in this state economically. Queensland has one only hope when it comes to economic management, and that is the LNP.