



Speech By
Bruce Saunders

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

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MOTION

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Federal Election

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (5.26 pm): Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Member for Southern Downs, for the second time today you are warned under the standing orders. I had called the House to order, members. I appreciate a robust debate. This is going too far. The member for Maryborough had not even spoken before he was being interjected upon. I have given very clear instructions about this previously.

Mr SAUNDERS: Mr Speaker, thank you very much. Is this a bit of a joke? Have we just jumped in the TARDIS and gone back to 1 April? I do not know what is going on here. I said this morning that it has been a good news week and then the opposition started its silly games. We know how much those opposite love Queenslanders. What did we see in the *Brisbane Times* today? If those opposite get back into power they will be cutting the Public Service. The Leader of the Opposition said in the *Brisbane Times* that she cannot guarantee further cuts to the Public Service. Remember the 14,000 Queenslanders? How many families did that affect? In my electorate it affected a lot of people.

The LNP has no plan for infrastructure. In fact, it made a virtue of cutting infrastructure for the three years when it was in government. Its Budget Paper No. 3 Capital Statement said that, apart from reconstruction, the capital program will be smaller than in previous years, reflecting the determination of the government to restore the state's financial position. It was there in black and white. It was very proud of cutting infrastructure whereas we build in the regions. I could talk all day about the New Generation Rollingstock. What a great success! Could you imagine them? Could you see them? It was like the Barnum circus saying, 'Have a look at this. Buy this train that doesn't work!' Thank you, LNP! I just got a lecture from the member for Surfers Paradise when he said that I was elected on 25 per cent. I increased my primary vote to 46 per cent. Where did the LNP go? Seventeen per cent! Member for Surfers Paradise, you might be a good dentist, but as a mathematician you are a failure.

Mr SPEAKER: Through the chair, member.

Mr SAUNDERS: Sorry, Mr Speaker. The rolling stock is a fine example of the LNP. If people want to see how good the LNP was in government, they should look at the NGR trains. I see them every day.

Mr Pegg: They were a laughing-stock.

Mr SAUNDERS: I take that interjection from the member for Stretton. They were the laughing-stock of the whole community. That is why the LNP's vote went to 17 per cent.

I want to talk about pathology services and how great the LNP government was. The Leader of the Opposition sat at the table when the LNP cut pathology services from Maryborough Hospital. The other day I was shopping at Aldi and a lady came up to me and said, 'I have been an LNP voter all my life, but I voted for you and I will continue to vote for you.'

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SAUNDERS: That is why Queenslanders dislike the LNP. That is why they will not vote for the LNP. She said to me, 'You saved my life by getting the pathology unit back to Maryborough Hospital.' That is what happened. The Palaszczuk government restored services that that mob cut. They cut, they sacked and they sold.

I can tell members that I believe their vote in the Maryborough electorate will be lower than 17 per cent at the next election. The people of the Maryborough electorate are fantastic. They are good people. I often say that Maryborough is one of best cities in this country, if not the state, but the people of Maryborough do not forget and they do not forgive. They know what the LNP did to them while it was in government. It cut pathology services. In relation to the trains, the LNP sent those jobs overseas. It sold off everything. The LNP was threatening to sell off the electricity—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SAUNDERS: Mr Speaker, listen to them. They are a rabble. They think that Queenslanders are going to vote for them after 16 months of the ScoMo government, but we know they already have the knives out. They are coming after Queenslanders. They are going to cut and there will be more chaos from this mob. I am a punting man. I will say this: after 16 months of ScoMo Queenslanders will detest the LNP more than they do now.