



Speech By  
**Hon. Cameron Dick**


**MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 3 April 2019

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Federal Budget, Funding Priorities**

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.48 am): Twelve hours—12 hours is as long as federal Treasurer Josh Frydenberg's budget lasted until he had to get out the red pen and start changing it. This morning on radio, barely 12 hours after he delivered it, Josh Frydenberg was already changing the rules about who gets the energy assistance payment. It was a welcome change for jobseekers, Austudy and Abstudy recipients and it is something that any government that believed in fairness should have had in their budget from the very beginning. It shows that amid the chaos, confusion and culture wars of this federal LNP government it cannot get anything right. This chaos is emblematic of a budget of a government that has given up on itself and given up on Queensland. This is not a budget designed to win an election; it is a budget to win the seats they want for opposition: Higgins, Corangamite and, most importantly, Frydenberg's own seat of Kooyong. Forget Petrie, Lilley, Flynn, Forde, Dawson, Capricornia, Herbert and Leichhardt; they have written all of them off. Instead, Queensland gets \$2 billion for fast rail to Geelong. What does that tell honourable members about priorities? Victoria gets fast rail; Queensland gets slow roads. Fast rail to Geelong is the answer to the question—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Members to my left.

**Mr DICK:**—that no-one was asking—a town that has half the population of the Gold Coast, a town that has two-thirds the population of the Sunshine Coast, a place that no-one wants to visit. Even people from Geelong do not want fast rail to Geelong, except perhaps one person, Sarah Henderson, Josh Frydenberg's factional ally who is sitting on a wafer-thin margin of three per cent. Of course, the federal coalition government is investing \$50 million into a new hospital in Geelong. There is money for Victorian hospitals, money to build Victorian hospitals, a capital investment in Victorian hospitals and nothing to build Queensland hospitals.

When it comes to economic management, while the federal Treasurer still has his training wheels on, he should have looked at Queensland where the Palaszczuk Labor government has delivered—

**Opposition members:** Ha, ha!

**Mr Minnikin** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Members, I have already said previously how laughter is not an appropriate response to a member's contribution to the House unless it is funny. I am listening to the member's statement and the member is talking about policy matters. I do not want to have to interrupt every ministerial statement, but if the behaviour continues I will do so.

**Mr DICK:** I take the interjection from the member for Chatsworth. Let the record show the Palaszczuk Labor government has delivered four surpluses in a row in Queensland and, when the member for Chatsworth was an assistant minister, the Newman government did not deliver one. That

is the record of Labor versus the LNP. The federal LNP have a projection, a promise, a wing and a prayer that they will hit a magic surplus next year when our government has delivered four in a row. Even if we could forget the LNP's chaos and dysfunction, which I know is a big call, what bothers me most is the total disregard for Queensland in this federal budget. What does Queensland get? When it comes to the so-called National Rail Program, we get less than half what New South Wales gets. The federal government invests money in wi-fi on trains between Hornsby and Wyong, but there is no new money for urban rail in Queensland. As everyone on this side of the House knows, this was a budget—

**Mr Watts** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Toowoomba North.

**Mr DICK:**—for the New South Wales Blues and there is not one zack for the Queensland Maroons.

**Mr Watts** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Toowoomba North.

**Mr DICK:** Roads funding? Queenslanders had better get used to waiting; most of the new money does not come to our state till 2022-23. Queenslanders would have to vote for Scott Morrison not only once but twice to get any money out of this budget. What a thought for Queenslanders! When it comes to the next election, I say this: I urge all Queenslanders to look at what the federal coalition has done. The LNP has written off our seats, it has written off our infrastructure and it has written Queenslanders out of the budget. I am calling on Queenslanders at the next federal election to write off this rotten federal LNP government.