



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

---

Record of Proceedings, 15 May 2019

**MOTION**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (5.44 pm): I rise to speak in support of the motion, because it highlights a clear contrast between an opposition with a vision and a plan and a government running out of excuses and running out of time. For the first term the Palaszczuk government was able to drift along. It adopted a small target strategy. Growth in the public sector masked how bad unemployment was and was becoming. An increase in mining royalties masked the growth in expenditure that it was not able to control like good governments can. The government's failures in the programs and in the ministerial departments had not yet come home to roost.

Midway through this term, it is a vastly different story. Services are in freefall, such as in the health system, which was finally running properly, and law and order issues ranging from what youth offenders do on the streets to the way they are detained. In transport, we have a rail fail. That term is now part of our everyday language. There is also an infrastructure backlog that the government should be ashamed of. At the top of the list is the economic malaise. The government will always talk about unemployment figures, but it will not highlight that not only is Queensland's 6.1 per cent unemployment rate shameful—

**Mr Harper** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Thuringowa, you are warned under the standing orders.

**Mr CRISAFULLI:** When we contrast Queensland's unemployment rate against the national average, we see that it is particularly woeful. This motion highlights that business investment in Queensland is in freefall, wage growth in the private sector is far less than the national average and there is a crisis in the construction industry. The other day in regional Queensland I met a builder who said that conditions were the worst he had seen in 40 years. Queensland is the strike capital of Australia. There are five new taxes weighing down our economy, the largest of which were not promised in the lead-up to the last election.

This motion does not say why this is happening. I believe it is because the Deputy Premier and Treasurer has her eye off the ball. Instead of balancing the books, she is overseeing her pet projects. Instead of reigning in costs, she has ministers scurrying to her asking for permission for everything they do each and every day. Above all, the major reason is that the Treasurer is conflicted in her electorate. The Treasurer can be a lion around the cabinet table, but a lamb in her electorate. She can be a warrior in William Street, but a wimp in West End.

The Treasurer knows that, in order to survive, she must kowtow to the very people whose agenda runs contrary to what this state needs. Everyday Queenslanders talk about a balance when transitioning from coal to renewable energy, but, in order for the member for South Brisbane to survive, she must kowtow to a group who do not believe that. So her mind wanders. Instead of balancing the books, she looks afar and asks, 'Is the grass greener on the other slope or do I feel like a Tooheys?' One way or

another, someone opposite is going to feel the knife, because in the long term the Deputy Premier knows that she cannot do both: she cannot be an effective member in her electorate and an effective Treasurer. The Treasurer cannot continue to survive in a seat where the views of her constituency run contrary to what this state needs.

In contrast, the LNP has a vision. This evening, our shadow Treasurer outlined a wonderful vision—the delivery of infrastructure, roads, things like the M1, things like the next stage of light rail, hospitals, classrooms, dams and no new taxes. Tonight I say we will govern to fix the mess caused by the catastrophic management of those opposite, we will govern to fix the unemployment crisis gripping this state and we will govern with the humility and discipline to restore confidence in a once-mighty economy.