




Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**

**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 June 2019

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE  
AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (12.39 pm): I am committed to creating jobs. Work brings dignity. Work brings prosperity and the capacity to control your destiny. Work creates new skills and builds self-esteem. Work can even bring new friends. It certainly provides valuable goods and services for our community. When I speak to people in the electorate of Greenslopes, they are focused on making sure they have a decent job and they want decent jobs for their kids.

I am proud to be part of the Palaszczuk Labor government that has created over 200,000 jobs since being elected in 2015. We have done this by diversifying the state economy, by backing small business, by building infrastructure, by investing in skills and training and by focusing on creating jobs right across our entire state. Economic diversification into areas like advanced manufacturing and the film industries are creating new job opportunities.

Small businesses, as we know, create jobs. The grants and the tax cuts are helping small businesses to grow and employ even more people. New infrastructure like the Cross River Rail and new classrooms at Holland Park State School and Nursery Road State Special School are creating jobs during construction, but they are also delivering economic and social benefits after construction. We are focusing on developing skills for all people. The Skilling Queenslanders for Work program focuses on people who need assistance to enter the workforce. The Palaszczuk Labor government is committed to creating jobs right across our entire state, because when you create jobs in the resource, tourism or agriculture sectors people who live in my electorate also get jobs. I am pleased to say this is a budget focused on the No. 1 priority of the Palaszczuk government—that is, creating jobs.

Any decent financial adviser will encourage a strategy of diverse investment. Why? It maximises the chances of obtaining long-term financial goals while minimising risks. Similarly, a diverse economy gives the state the capacity to change and respond to changing economic circumstances. The Premier should be rightly proud of the work she has done to create the film and television industry in this state. Just this week, I was speaking to a professor of film and television who told me how many of his students were now walking straight into good jobs in the industry and that was not happening five years ago. Advanced manufacturing businesses like Rheinmetall and Tritium—by the way, Tritium started in Coorparoo—are bringing job opportunities to our state.

Small businesses create jobs. I spoke earlier in the week about visiting health and fitness businesses during Small Business Week and talking to the owners about the grants that are available to help those businesses to innovate, to improve their performance and to grow. A recent Productivity Commission report said that not enough businesses are focused on innovation, nor are they focused on the very important task of monitoring performance. The Palaszczuk Labor government's small business grants target just these things—innovation and building the capacity of business owners to manage and grow their business.

CCIQ are certainly out there spreading the good news of the payroll tax cuts. I know they will be welcomed by small and medium businesses in the electorate of Greenslopes. I know that businesses like the Greenslopes News, Books@Stones, Lady Marmalade, Apple Loans, GMS Accounting, Wil-Tow, Snotty Noses, MissFit, Studio Pilates, Lady Brock, Unitray and Supplement City all understand that I am focused on supporting small businesses and will welcome the measures in this budget aimed at supporting small and medium businesses.

Investing in long-term, sensible, economic infrastructure is good for our community. Cross River Rail, the Veloway and the Eastern Transitway are all creating jobs but are getting people to work faster and safer with significant economic and social benefits. I am really excited about the investment in infrastructure in our local schools. I committed to backing our local schools. We are supporting the teaching and school staff by increasing numbers.

This year Holland Park State School and Nursery Road are receiving funding for new classrooms. This builds on recent infrastructure investments at Greenslopes State School, Coorparoo Secondary College, Coorparoo State School, Whites Hill State College, Mount Gravatt State High School, Cavendish Road State High School and Marshall Road State School. Not only do we create the jobs but we are focused on creating a workforce capable of filling these jobs. This budget's continued investment in the Mount Gravatt TAFE campus is welcomed. The Skilling Queenslanders for Work program continues to assist people who have been unemployed for long periods of time to gain the skills and confidence they need. I see the good work of this program at Vision Australia, where people with low or no vision are part of programs that lead to jobs. That is welcome news, as the unemployment rate among people with low and no vision is well over 50 per cent but it is the Palaszczuk government that is working to bring this down.

I am really pleased that our government is focused on creating jobs right across our state. When I am doorknocking or speaking to people at bus stops on their way to work, I constantly meet people who have jobs that exist because they are supporting projects in the resource, agriculture, tourism and logistics sectors. They are accountants, lawyers, HR, marketing, IT professionals and many other roles. When I hear of our government creating jobs anywhere in this state, I know that will have a flow-on benefit for the people who live in my electorate.

I want to deal with some of the issues being raised by the LNP. I have to say it is fairly easy to do this because the same issues are raised over and over and over again. I would just make one appeal to the person who writes the LNP speeches. Please, could we just have two versions? Would it be too much to ask that we do not hear the same speech 38 times?

**Mr Janetzki:** We don't need a lecture by you.

**Mr KELLY:** Let us talk about lecturing. I will take the honourable member's interjection about lecturing. Let us talk about lecturing on infrastructure. Let us go for a drive around my electorate and look at all the infrastructure that was built by the LNP during the mercifully short time they were in office. In fact, I cannot see any. There was something that was supposed to be built. I think the member for Mansfield who is next to me would remember that. It was a hall that was supposed to be built at Cavendish Road High School. The hall was built but it was built at a school in Ashgrove. That money was taken so it is not correct to say that no infrastructure was built.

I know it is the convention during the delivery of the budget speech and budget reply speeches not to interject and not to call frivolous points of order, but I thought what the Leader of the Opposition said yesterday in relation to jobs and Labor politicians was absolutely disgraceful. I think she should withdraw those comments. I have nothing but the deepest respect for people who own, manage and work in small businesses. They work extremely hard and they provide valuable services to our community. Those people that I know in small business also have deep respect for the sorts of jobs that I have chosen and many other people in this House have chosen to do over our careers. When the Leader of the Opposition slams people like me and says, 'Well, your job doesn't count. Nursing doesn't count,' she insults every nurse, every teacher and every paramedic. She should withdraw those comments and apologise.

**Mr Brown:** Pathology scientists.

**Mr KELLY:** Yes, pathology scientists. I cannot wait to get back to my electorate. I will be talking to people about what this budget means for jobs. It is a great budget for jobs. I am going to talk about jobs so much that I am going to have to take the 'e' out of my name and change it to 'Job Kelly'. That is what I am going to do. I would like to congratulate the Premier, the Deputy Premier and the ministers. This is a job-creating budget. This is a budget for all Queenslanders.