



Speech By  
**Scott Stewart**


**MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE**

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Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2019

**MOTION**

**Newman LNP Government, Performance**

 **Mr STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (11.56 am): How great it is to have our future leaders sitting in the gallery. I was talking to some of the students from town high, my old high school. I was talking to Telisha Scott, one of our great students, who is here in the gallery. Telisha's former school was Stuart State School. Telisha told me that her school was closed under the LNP government. Telisha told me that she had to change schools and find new friends because her school was closed under the LNP government. That is the track record of those opposite when it comes to education. Telisha has never forgotten that. Those opposite close schools here in North Queensland and build them in Brisbane. All they care about is the south-east corner. Close schools in the north, build them in the south, that is it. They come in here talking about regional Queensland.

**Mr Boothman** interjected.

**Mr Krause** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Member for Theodore, you are warned under the standing orders. Member for Scenic Rim, you are already under a warning. You can leave the chamber for an hour.

*Whereupon the honourable member for Scenic Rim withdrew from the chamber at 11.57 am.*

**Mr SPEAKER:** I remind members under warnings there will be no interjections.

**Mr STEWART:** There is irony in what the member for Burdekin says. He talks about jobs. Let us compare those jobs figures: under the LNP 670 government workers were sacked here in Townsville. What was the impact of that on our community? More people left our city, taking kids out of our schools, taking money out of our economy. We know that when we have people living and working in our city—and the Palaszczuk government has great plans for thousands and thousands of jobs through its infrastructure spend—we see the money stay local. When the money stays here it creates jobs for these young people sitting in our gallery today. I can tell our young kids in the gallery that we are creating a future for you. The LNP will not do it for you.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The member will put his comments through the chair.

**Mr STEWART:** The LNP will not create a future for our youth. All they want to do is close schools and sack our workers. Shame on them!

When it comes to our assets, who had Strong Choices? The LNP! How strong were those choices? They sold the North Queensland port, the greatest port in north Australia. It is the largest port, with the best exports, right here in Townsville. There are 8,000 direct and indirect jobs through that port and they wanted to sell it. What about our electricity network? That was up for sale, too. They were ready to sell off Ergon. By how much did they increase the cost of electricity? It was increased by 43 per cent! How do you think that impacted upon the people of Townsville? You talk about regional Queensland; hang your heads!