




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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MOTION

Coronavirus, Economic Response

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (4.56 pm): The geniuses on the opposition tactics committee say they are ready for government, but they cannot even move an amendment without it being out of order. The geniuses on the other side who want to run this state cannot even get an amendment right, but I think I have worked out what the problem was. They were missing the intellectual nous of the member for Toowoomba North. I think that is what has happened—after they sacked him and promoted him in the space of 24 hours. I digress.

We do not need lectures from the economic illiterates on that side. We remember them in government. They gave us 0.7 per cent growth. They nosedived the economy into the abyss. Unemployment was 7.1 per cent, which is actually higher than it currently is. We hit 7.1 per cent under them. We saw how hopeless they were. I just need to mention two words: Strong Choices. They were trying to sell off our assets, they were sacking nurses and they were sacking public servants. We all remember that.

By moving this amendment, it is very clear that they do not support our economic plan and they do not support getting jobs going, but we do know what their plan is. The LNP's plan is: whatever it is, they oppose it. That is their plan. They will knock it, they will be negative, they will whinge and they will whine, but you cannot whinge and whine your way to government in Queensland, and that is what the opposition is putting forward to us.

The best economic plan is not just what we are seeing in this motion; it is the best health response. That is the best thing. We acted first, we acted early and we went hard. People in the US, the United Kingdom and Italy would look at Queensland as the best state in Australia and say, 'Those people got it right.' Any opposition with any credibility would come into this place and admit that was the case, but that is just a bit beyond this limited crew on the other side.

This package is \$880 million, with \$400 million in regional roads. I heard today that there were a range of LNP MPs bagging it until they found there were lots of projects in their own electorates—because we are getting jobs across the whole state going. We are not going to cut roads like those opposite did with \$600 million worth of cuts. There are a lot of projects in there and a lot of stimulus as part of it. The CopperString component is very strong. The energy sector is stronger because of this government. We are not going to sell it off; we are going to make it better. We are going to make sure we get jobs going, and that is why we had so much endorsement from all of those different groups yesterday—because they are working with a government with a plan, not an opposition that just opposes everything.

(Time expired)