




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Record of Proceedings, 5 February 2020

MOTION

Maleny Dairies

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (5.53 pm): We have just seen a conga line of ministers and members from the Labor Party, and they have been mostly city members—the members for Murrumba, Ferny Grove and Springwood—but they have all missed the point. This is about the buy local program. What does buy local mean? It is a pretty simple concept that those opposite seem to have completely missed. Buy local means you buy products from a local company. It does not say to buy from an overseas company, a company controlled by overseas entities. It is about buying locally. The member for Glass House's motion states that this House 'calls on the Palaszczuk government to review the decision, including awarding at least a portion of the supply contract to Maleny Dairies'.

We would think that three ministers and an assistant minister of this government might be watching their Premier's Facebook page, but apparently for the last hour or so they have not. If they had, they would have noticed that the Premier posted on her Facebook page an hour ago stating—

This is not good enough. I have written to Lactalis urging them to reverse their decision and support Queensland jobs.

Tabled paper: Extract, dated 5 February 2020, from the Facebook page of the Premier and Minister for Trade, Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk, regarding Lactalis and Queensland jobs [\[191\]](#).

What is she talking about? She is talking about Lactalis, the group that was awarded this contract, which is closing down its Rockhampton regional base and scaling back its activities in South Brisbane. We are calling for a review of this particular case and it appears as though the Premier agrees with us because she has written to Lactalis tonight. Part of that letter says—

My Government has previously dealt with your company in good faith in the interest of providing as many good, secure jobs to Queenslanders as possible.

She is not doing real well there. The letter continues—

Please be aware that I have asked my Director-General, Mr Dave Stewart, to examine how the Queensland Government engages with Lactalis into the future.

We expect the Premier to come in here in the division and vote with us because she wants this to be reviewed as well. Let us wait and see what happens there. The Buy Queensland website says—

The Queensland Procurement Strategy ensures informed decisions are made about how government funds are used to prioritise Queensland businesses—

They have failed with that category, haven't they? And—

support local jobs in regional Queensland—

It is a South Brisbane company but never mind. The website also states—

The Queensland Government Procurement Strategy outlines how we will use this investment to support government objectives to—

...

make it easier by affording full and reasonable opportunity for local business to supply to Queensland Government—

If that was really what they wanted to do, they might be able to break the contract down into something that Maleny Dairies could supply. After all, what they did here is they have a requirement to have one regional company. One local company put in for the tender so they asked Maleny Dairies to do it, but in good faith they did not deal with Maleny Dairies after that and they have given it to a company that is now abandoning Queensland, abandoning Queensland jobs, closing down their regional facility and scaling back in South Brisbane so that some of the products that are made in South Brisbane will now be sourced interstate. These will not be Queensland products that the hospitals are buying. Let us wait and see what our Premier does when she comes in here to vote. She wants this reviewed, the LNP wants this reviewed and 12,900 voters in Queensland want this reviewed.

(Time expired)