




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

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MOTION

Coronavirus, Economic Response

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (4.53 pm): The government want to come in here and give themselves a pat on the back for doing absolutely nothing. They may have been the first state in Australia to have come forward in the health crisis, but they are the last state to do anything about the economic crisis they have caused. Let us have a look at a few of the things they have done and a few of the things they have not done. They put \$500 million into the QRIDA loan schemes. These are loans, not grants.

Ms Grace: It is all gone. That is how popular it is.

Mr HART: I take that interjection. It has all gone. Who would have thought that people would want to take free money, that they would like to take loans that were interest free? Unfortunately, those opposite have never run a business. They do not know what it takes to run a business. They do not appreciate that of course people in business would like a free loan. There were enough businesses which applied for these loans that the government had to add another \$500 million to the kitty, yet no new entrants are allowed to come in and apply for that loan. I have also heard from various people that there are no conditions on any of these loans. It may be that people are getting business loans and paying their residential mortgage off with them. I would really like to know what auditing process is going to happen, because this government is not really good with other people's money.

On 29 March the national cabinet approved a mandatory code of conduct for commercial premises. That was seven weeks ago, and so far there has been no clarity for anybody on either side of the commercial tenancies. We have tenants saying to their landlords, 'I don't have to pay rent because that's what the government has told me,' and we have landlords saying, 'The law hasn't actually been changed so you have to pay rent or we're going to throw you out.' There is absolutely no clarity and it has scared a lot of people.

There were a whole bunch of people on the lawn out here patting the government on the back for approving some of the things that they asked for, but that is just not good enough. We have had industry bodies come to us as well and they have asked for a whole line of things, but the government has gone through and picked one or two things out of that. For instance, it does not take a crystal ball to see that, in the building industry, development and buildings are going to fall off a cliff in six or 12 months, but what has this government done? Absolutely nothing.

(Time expired)