




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

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MOTION

Coronavirus, JobKeeper

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (4.37 pm): How delusional are members opposite? We really start to wonder when we see a conga line of under-pressure backbenchers with prepared speeches standing up here trying to defend the indefensible from this government. This government has done nothing to help businesses in my patch on the Gold Coast. In fact, a lot of people on the Gold Coast tell me that they think this Labor government is deliberately trashing our economy so that it can blame the federal government for everything. Of course, it is Scott Morrison's fault that everything happens in this country! Quite frankly, JobKeeper has saved this state and this country. It was nobody else's idea but the federal LNP. The problem with members of this government is that when they look at history and do not like it they just go out and reinvent it. They write a whole new story—complete fairy tales.

This state was trashed before COVID-19 came along. We were already heading for \$90 billion of debt. This government will now use COVID as an excuse to push the debt out to \$100 billion, because it likes burning through other people's money. The credit card is starting to run out. If this government is that concerned about JobKeeper continuing, why does it not do something about it? What is to stop it from funding something similar? Absolutely nothing. When we look at the federal government's HomeBuilder scheme, for instance—

Ms Jones interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Order! Pause the clock. Member for Cooper, you need to be in your allocated seat if you are going to interject.

Mr HART: When we look at the wonderful HomeBuilder scheme that the federal government came up with that gives people \$25,000 to put towards building a house, that was announced on 4 June. Scott Morrison and the Treasurer of Australia went out and said, 'Here's this \$25,000. We're going to pass it through the states. States, get on board. Let's encourage our building industry.' This government took until 3 July to sign on to that process. It took it well over a month. It was the last government in Australia to sign on to it and now apparently it cannot organise the paperwork for another month, and it will now be August before people can fill the form in. It appears as if this government is deliberately putting the state of Queensland under financial pressure so it can blame the federal government. I really do not know what is going on here and I am sure that those opposite do not know what is going on, and that is the problem.