




Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**  
**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 November 2020

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Coronavirus, Economy

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning) (9.50 am): Our Premier's strong leadership has kept Queenslanders safe and we have avoided the devastating scenes now seen overseas. As the rest of the world fights against second and third waves of COVID-19, Queenslanders are settling in to the new normal. Queenslanders listened to the health advice and made many personal sacrifices in order to keep themselves and their neighbours safe. In the last term of government I was honoured to be Queensland's health minister. Queensland Health is filled with the most dedicated and inspiring people. It has been an honour to work alongside them.

Now, with restrictions having eased and our borders reopening, our eyes are fixed firmly on Queensland's recovery and it is the Palaszczuk government's vision that we emerge from this global pandemic stronger and more resilient than ever. Our economic recovery plan will invest in frontline services. We will seize future opportunities. We will grow the economy, create secure jobs and build a stronger Queensland. We are delivering more than \$8 billion in initiatives designed to drive economic growth and protect Queensland jobs. From targeted support for small businesses to relief for households and strategic plans for the future of Queensland's economy, that investment is supporting 55,000 local jobs.

As Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, I look forward to working with all of our ministers to drive Queensland's economic recovery. By focusing on the growth industries of aerospace, biofutures, biomedical, defence and mining equipment and technology services, we are empowering them to deliver thousands more jobs. Queensland can and will be world leaders in new and innovative technologies and secure the jobs that come with being frontrunners in emerging industries. When government works together with business we can achieve great things and everyday Queenslanders get the benefits.

World aviation giant Boeing is one great example. The Palaszczuk government worked hard to attract Boeing to Queensland and now its biggest headquarters outside the United States are here in Queensland. Boeing's presence in Queensland has expanded to 1,700 staff across four locations in Townsville, Brisbane, Amberley and Oakey. The Queensland government and Boeing working together have created good, secure, well-paying jobs for Queenslanders. The flow-on benefits support more than 400 Queensland based suppliers.

I am pleased to inform the House that, thanks to the efforts of our government, Boeing's presence will be further expanded to bring the manufacturing and testing of unmanned defence aircraft to Queensland. This will be the first military aircraft to be designed, engineered and manufactured in Australia in more than 50 years. The aircraft will be tested at a new world-leading test range in Cloncurry supported by a \$14.5 million investment by the Queensland government. There is a long way to go on Queensland's path to economic recovery, but Queenslanders can rest assured that we will be fighting to create and support every single job we can.