Speech By

Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 13 August 2020

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Queensland Economy, Unemployment

Mr MANDER (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): Today Queensland's unemployment rate is the worst in the nation at 8.8 per cent. That equates to 234,800 Queenslanders who are officially out of work and on the jobless queue. Under this Labor government, and because they cannot manage the economy, nearly 111,000 Queenslanders have lost their jobs over the past year—31,700 in the past month alone. Before the coronavirus Queensland had on average the worst unemployment rate in the country. Today, unfortunately, that trend continues.

How can we have any confidence in this government to navigate our way out of the economic recession we face when they could not do that when times were far better pre COVID? How can we have confidence in a government to lead an economic recovery when there is no budget? If there is no budget there is no plan for economic recovery.

The governments of every state in this nation—Victoria, Western Australia, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania—have announced that they will deliver a budget this year. The Palaszczuk Labor government is the only government that has not announced that it will deliver a budget and it will not produce one before the election. How can we have any confidence that they have a plan to stimulate the economy and get jobs going again in this state?

Only the LNP has a plan to stimulate the economy. We will invest for growth. We will supercharge the regions. We will unleash Queensland industry. We will secure our children's future. We will get Queensland working again by investing in the infrastructure that will create jobs. We will bring in the policies that will bring confidence back to business so they will invest in this state. If they invest in this state we will create jobs in partnership with the private sector. This government has failed miserably and the jobless queue today is proof of that.