



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)

Appropriation Bill

Transport and Resources Committee, Report

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (11.35 am): The Queensland government is one of the largest procurement agencies in the country. We know that where we spend our money matters because it helps to drive jobs. The Palaszczuk government wants to drive them right here in Queensland. As members can tell, I am incredibly passionate about the Buy Queensland policy so that is where I want to start my estimates contribution today.

Businesses right across Queensland benefit from this policy. I have been informed there are over 500 businesses in the Mount Ommaney electorate alone that are registered to supply the Queensland government—businesses like Queensland Bridge & Civil and Premier Sports & Leisure which has fitted out state schools throughout Queensland with sporting facilities. Even more exciting, since the 2017-18 financial year, the Queensland government has spent over \$400 million with Mount Ommaney businesses. As members know, we have a large industrial subset in my electorate. That is about \$100 million per financial year. That is fantastic. Every single one of these businesses employs more locals from my community. Some of these businesses employ literally hundreds of local people. My motto is where there is one there is more or, in this case, where there is 500 there is more. I want to see more Mount Ommaney businesses continue to sign up to supply the Palaszczuk government through the QTenders procurement process portal.

Of course, one department that excels at the Buy Queensland policy was our first portfolio for the day—that is, Transport and Main Roads. I took the opportunity to ask the minister about the Centenary Bridge upgrade at Jindalee which last year federal member Milton Dick and I were delighted to announce the state and federal government will be co-funding. The design and business case of the project was already funded by the state government, however, the next stage will be equally funded by the state and federal governments and construction will start in 2021. Recently, residents in my electorate and beyond would have received the flyer from Transport and Main Roads in their letterbox and my flyer about upcoming community consultation that the federal member and I will be conducting—or at least I will be conducting because poor Milton has informed me he is going to be stuck in quarantine.

I have mentioned before that Transport and Main Roads uses over 90 per cent Queensland materials sourced from local suppliers like Wagners Concrete in Wacol. This creates a second layer of jobs in the procurement of equipment and materials to construct these world-class projects. It is a real credit to the department and the minister. I am excited that the Centenary Motorway is the first project that is going to be undertaken using the best practice framework.

With the recent decision to award the Olympics to Queensland in 2032—which I am sure every single member of this House is just thrilled about—there is even more opportunity to partner with the federal government, as fifty-fifty partners in the Olympics, on road projects right across Queensland. As we see Olympics planning get underway, this is exciting news for road projects right across Queensland.

Not a week goes by that I do not have a Mount Ommaney constituent contacting me about renewable energy. I am proud of the Palaszczuk government's commitment to 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030 and the landmark \$2 billion commitment that our government has made to reach that figure. It is really exciting. We need a mix of solar, hydro and wind. The minister was able to talk in some detail about some of the projects that we will see get underway in the coming years. We need an energy mix that reflects the changing face of Queensland.

I also thank the members of the secretariat, the public servants who spent hundreds of hours preparing for estimates, the ministers and their staff. A lot of hard work goes into it. I thank all of the members of the committee who came along to ask questions. In one of the earlier estimates hearings this year, during his section of questioning I heard the Clerk of the Parliament comment that the value of the estimates process is not just about the questions asked on the day; it is actually in the preparation and the reflection that comes with the process of preparing for estimates. I completely agree. That process of reflection and contemplation is a really important one. As I have said, I thank the secretariat, my entire committee and my chair, Shane King, for doing a wonderful job. I commend the report to the House.