



Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

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Record of Proceedings, 25 October 2022

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Federal Budget

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympics) (9.34 am): As the Albanese federal government hands down its first budget, Queensland's economy is leading the way. There have been 106,400 jobs created over the last year. Exports of goods have hit a new record of 127.5 billion, more than New South Wales and Victoria combined. Australians are voting with their feet, with net interstate migration to Queensland at nearly 54,000 over the year to March—again leading the country. When it comes to annual growth even CommSec is backing Queensland, saying in its latest report—

Queensland is the growth leader.

Queensland has the strongest jobs market.

That strong economy, built on a strong health response, has flowed through to a strong budget position: a surplus last financial year of \$4.3 billion, up by \$2.4 billion compared to the budget. Well done, Treasurer!

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** Those opposite do not like good news. There is more to come. This has supported the doubling of the Housing Investment Fund to \$2 billion. The Housing Investment Fund will position Australia to partner on a housing accord with the federal government to deliver even more affordable housing. I look forward to further detail in tonight's budget, a federal budget that has already confirmed support for cost of living, including an additional six weeks of paid parental leave for families, taking the total leave to six months from July 2026; delivery of the commitment for more free TAFE, backing our government's policy; another 20,000 university places nationally, focused on supporting people living in the regions; improved childcare subsidies for over one million families across the nation; and cheaper medicines under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. The regions will benefit from \$2.4 billion of funding upgrades to broadband supporting 660,000 premises in regional Australia. There is another \$1.47 billion in infrastructure projects for Queensland, including upgrades to the Bruce Highway and an exciting new focus on critical minerals that will support more jobs in our resources industry.

I am looking forward to seeing more funding in tonight's budget to support primary health care to take pressure off our hospital system. Our government welcomes support and systems solutions to achieve better use of hospital beds to relieve pressure on hospitals and improve patient outcomes. I will be listening to the Treasurer's budget speech tonight to see what the budget will deliver for Queensland. We now have a Prime Minister who listens and understands Queensland and a federal Treasurer from Queensland.