




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 13 October 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Employment

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (10.19 am): Better services and a great Queensland lifestyle are two of the three elements underpinning our government's commitment to Queenslanders, but those two would not be possible without the third—good jobs. When it comes to jobs I have great news for Queensland: the latest data—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order members! The House will come to order.

Mr DICK: I thank those members opposite.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Deputy Leader of the Opposition, it is the second time today. You are warned under the standing orders.

Mr DICK: I thank the members opposite for welcoming this amazing news for Queensland. The latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics showed that Queensland's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.2 per cent in August. This is the lowest unemployment rate in Queensland for 44 years. A 3.2 per cent unemployment rate is the lowest recorded level since the ABS began producing monthly data in February 1978. A 3.2 per cent unemployment rate is a truly historic achievement for Queensland and one of which all Queensland workers and all Queensland businesses should be proud, because our government is proud of this achievement.

Mr Janetzki interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Toowoomba South is warned under the standing orders.

Mr DICK: It is the perfect place from which to embark on the job creation journey of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. Our energy and jobs plan will act as a magnet for further investment in job creation. Around the world, businesses are looking at factors like energy costs, access to raw materials, strength of transport networks and workforce skills when they look to invest. Queensland ticks all those boxes.

The clarity of our energy plan will give local and international companies the confidence to invest here, especially in areas like energy-intensive heavy industries and advanced manufacturing. We look forward to adding another 100,000 jobs on top of the 214,700 jobs created since the start of the pandemic and, as the Premier has said, creating more jobs than any other state or territory in the Commonwealth. Most pleasingly, 80 per cent of these jobs we have added have been full-time jobs. Our energy and jobs plan will bring confidence to businesses, confidence to workers, confidence to local government and confidence to investors that Queensland is the place to be.