




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment; Federal Budget

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (8.01 pm): I will shortly make some comments in relation to the budget that has just been handed down by the federal Treasurer, but firstly I wanted to turn to CommSec and in particular the Treasurer's performance in relation to CommSec today because it was a dysfunctional performance verging on hilarity. In fact, I am starting to feel a little bit sorry for the Treasurer. Abandoned by the Premier, not even the Premier could support the Treasurer on his renters' tax. He could not even get the Victorian Premier to support him on his renters' tax. I swear, if the Victorian Premier did not see merit in levying a tax on the people then it must be horrifying. It must be a terrible tax if Dan Andrews and the Victorian government could not even support the Treasurer on his renters' tax.

Today we had the Treasurer's laughable performance. I just want to level with you, Treasurer: we all know that you have broken your promises 26 times. We all know, Treasurer, what you have said about CommSec and what this government has said about CommSec for the last eight years. I am just going to go back a little bit before I turn to the budget. I want to make a couple of references back to what Labor treasurers have said about CommSec over the last eight years. Here are the words of former treasurer Jackie Trad, who said—

There are those who would elevate the CommSec report, which is at odds with every other economic report and based on flawed methodology.

That was Jackie. Then we have the Treasurer of today, the member for Woodridge, who said there were 'inherit flaws' in CommSec's methodology. My favourite is the member for Sandgate, because he was stepping in. It must be a factional thing that when the Treasurer is away the member for Sandgate steps in as Acting Treasurer. Just last year the Acting Treasurer said, 'The methodology is not just useless but inherently misleading.' Thank you, Acting Treasurer. I bet the Treasurer regrets leaving the member for Sandgate in charge of the Treasury when he was on leave. There was one other thing the Acting Treasurer at the time, the member for Sandgate, said. He said it 'exploded the myth of the CommSec methodology'. We know that those opposite have had all kinds of trouble with CommSec, but conveniently now they choose to accept the methodology.

I want to make one more comment in relation to what we saw from the Treasurer today and his delusional performance in relation to the renters' tax—which has been abandoned by the Premier—that the Treasurer so forcefully advocated for for so long. It is good to see that the Treasurer and the Premier are talking again. There was a bit of a breakdown in communication for a couple of days. I noticed that they started talking again when they were handing out the hard-earned taxpayer dime to billionaires last week down at Visy. As we saw, the favour was returned with front-page newspaper advertisements in the *Australian* and *Courier-Mail* today, but it was good that such a knees-up could get the Premier and Treasurer together one more time, to see them working together again handing out tens of millions of dollars to billionaires. It is great to see that Labor—the party of the working class—can get together on such an important issue.

I want to turn now to the budget we have just seen handed down this evening by the federal Treasurer. I am intrigued to see the Palaszczuk government's response to this budget and in particular what they will say tomorrow. For years and years we have heard a monotonous record from those opposite talking about their fair share from Canberra, and they have certainly built expectations quite high.

Mr SMITH: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I am seeking clarification whether or not this is a 10-minute contribution or a five-minute contribution as we have an automatic adjournment at 8.30.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): I thought it was 10 minutes. I will just check that. This is a 10-minute contribution.

Mr JANETZKI: Excellent. Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr JANETZKI: I will come to the member for Bundaberg shortly. We have heard plenty from the member for Bundaberg today. We have to await what the Palaszczuk government decides to do about the budget tomorrow. What will they say? We have just heard the budget tonight. When I reflect, last year the Treasurer himself was complaining that about half of the \$1.6 billion in infrastructure spend would only be spent beyond the forwards. I would like to understand what the Treasurer, the Premier and the Labor government will have to say after the savage cuts to infrastructure that Queensland has seen tonight. We heard the federal Treasurer—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr JANETZKI: That is one thing that the federal Treasurer and the state Treasurer have in common: they love to break promises. We have seen the federal Treasurer and the Treasurer, the member for Woodridge, talking. We know that in Canberra they have broken a promise. There are going to be higher gas prices and higher power prices, so that is a federal promise broken, but what will the government have to say about infrastructure projects in Queensland? There have either been cuts, silence or reprofiling. Isn't that a great word? I heard the federal Treasurer mention that.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr JANETZKI: I will take the interjection from the member for Nanango. Reprofiling is kind of a fancy economic word for delay, but I think it is more accurate to say it is a cut. It is a cut. They know that. Those opposite know what we have seen tonight is this: Hells Gates, gone; Urannah, gone; Emu Swamp Dam, gone—

Ms GRACE: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There are a couple of members who are not in their seats and they keep interjecting. If they want to interject, they should either sit in their seats or sit silently. I refer to the member for Buderim.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will issue a general reminder to all members that if you are to interject you will need to return to your seats.

Mr JANETZKI: Hells Gates, gone; Urannah, gone; Emu Swamp, gone; Hughenden irrigation, gone; Rockhampton Ring Road, gone. The budget has been silent tonight on other projects, including the Sunshine Coast rail and the Kuraby-Beenleigh rail. We have had cuts, we have had reprofiling—let us call that for what it is; it is not delays, it is cuts—and we have had silence.

We have heard it so many times from those opposite. They have got a choice tomorrow. Will they stand up for Queensland or will they as always play the politics? Will the Treasurer and the Premier talk about how Queensland has been short-changed or was it always just about the politics? The Treasurer was silent on the blank cheque that he gave to Wellcamp or was it all just about the politics?

When the Premier said Prime Minister Albanese would listen to calls for long-term fifty-fifty health funding, was that really in the best interests of Queenslanders? Was that about healing the health crisis in Queensland or was it always just about the politics? The federal budget is silent on that again tonight. When government ministers have lined up week after week after week, blaming Canberra, talking about getting their fair share, was it in the best interests of Queenslanders or was it always about the politics? Those of us on this side of the House know the answer. Tomorrow when the government is faced with the choice of backing Queenslanders or just playing politics, we know exactly what they will do.