



Speech By
Shane King

MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH

Record of Proceedings, 23 June 2022

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (8.54 pm): Far be it for me to use a motoring analogy, but I bought a ute once up in Yeppoon. I was driving it home and the diff made a fair bit of noise. You could get rid of it by turning up the radio. It gradually got louder and louder, but the whine in that diff is nothing like what I am hearing from over there tonight. Oh, my goodness! You cannot turn the stereo up to drown that out.

I am proud to speak to this year's Appropriation Bill, introduced by our Treasurer, the Hon. Cameron Dick. This is my eighth year supporting a strong budget that upholds our Labor values: good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle here in Queensland. This budget keeps up our record investment in health and education and continues our job-creating infrastructure program with billions of dollars in new funding for social housing, renewable energy and rail projects. The member for Maryborough has shown us how happy he is about that, and I score out of that, too. It recognises the enormous opportunity we have to transform Queensland in preparation for the 2032 Olympic Games when the eyes of the whole world will be on the Sunshine State.

Thank you to everyone involved in preparing the budget. I know we are still working in pretty tough times as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to take its toll, so it is appropriate I start with the Palaszczuk government's investment in health through the 2022-23 budget. I will focus on health as it relates to my local community of Kurwongbah and the Moreton Bay region.

I am proud of the health initiatives we are delivering in another record health budget. There will be a \$1 billion expansion of Redcliffe Hospital, delivering over 200 more beds as part of an almost \$10 billion, six-year Queensland Health capacity expansion program. There is \$82.9 million to continue the Caboolture Hospital redevelopment, delivering more beds, a new clinical services building and 1,000 new car parks, among other features. There is \$139 million for the satellite hospitals program which will deliver new medical facilities just to the north of me at Caboolture and in my old patch of Kallangur—I used to be the member for Kallangur. We are getting a rebuild of the Petrie Ambulance Station in a more accessible location which will be far better for ambulances to get in and out of it in its new home on Gympie Road at Lawnton. Work has commenced on our new ambulance site at Morayfield. We are investing \$1.6 billion in mental health, the biggest investment in Queensland's history. I am very proud to be part of that.

As with health, education is a key Labor priority. This budget continues our commitment to employ more teachers and more teacher aides with funding for 675 more teachers and another 200 teacher aides in this budget. I bet some of them are hoping to get jobs at Lawnton State School because they have now got one hell of a hall. Our thanks to the Education Minister Grace Grace for coming out to

help us open it last Friday, 17 June. When I became the state member for Kurwongbah there were no plans to build this hall, but together, I, the Lawnton State School community, the minister and the incredible administration dreamt big and now we have a big, bright, modern new hall that will change lives in Lawnton. Work is also underway on the new admin block and classrooms that are fully disability compliant. This over \$10 million commitment is giving Lawnton State School the love it has needed for a long time.

Lawnton is not alone. Jinibara School is getting over \$200,000 for a resource centre extension. There will be refurbishment of block E at Kurwongbah State School. The Treasurer came out recently on a visit to Kurwongbah and listened to the requests. I really appreciate that he has listened and is delivering already. It is a much needed refurbishment at that school. Narangba Valley State High School and Petrie State School are both getting refurbished blocks at a combined value of over a million dollars.

When it comes to infrastructure we still have some pretty great things on the go in the Kurwongbah electorate. Before I mention what this budget does I want to say a couple of quick thank-yous for the projects we have just wrapped up. At Dakabin station what was basically a rail siding has been transformed into a state-of-the-art, disability compliant, new station with only a bit more parking needed to finish it off. The transport minister knows I will not let that one go. There is also the Petrie roundabout, or intersection as we call it now as it is no longer a roundabout. It has unlocked the former bottleneck and given motorists a much more streamlined commute. I say thanks to the transport minister from myself and my community for both projects.

In this budget we also see the continuation of the long-awaited Deception Bay-New Settlement Road interchange, which is well underway. I will say the former government took it out of QTRIP and we put it back in—the member for Bancroft and I. We do appreciate the federal money there as well. It is really changing the area. It is brilliant. The Burpengary station upgrade is in the design and planning stage. I know the member for Glass House will be happy to hear that. When design is complete, the money will be in the budget for the rebuild and it is locked in.

Mr Powell: Make sure you talk to my mother.

Mr KING: I know the member's mother will be very happy. Narangba station park-and-ride has not been forgotten and work is continuing there. There is nearly a million dollars in this budget to complete design and start construction.

We have seen amazing beneficial changes in the Kurwongbah electorate brought about by a Palaszczuk Labor government. Our local community's future is looking much brighter with this budget that is focused on good jobs, better services and our great lifestyle here in Queensland. Madam Deputy Speaker, the Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

When it comes to the rest of Queensland, Speaker, the future is equally bright.

Renewable energy

I want to highlight some of our achievements on renewable energy today. Since 2015, we've put 50 projects on the books. We've invested over \$10 billion and through operational and committed projects we've added 7000 plus jobs and over 5700 extra mega watts in capacity across Queensland.

We're well on track for our targets of 50% renewable energy by 2030, net zero by 2050, and a climate positive Olympic Games in 2032.

Housing

On housing Speaker, I want to echo the Treasurer's comments about how great it is—and how important it is—to have a dedicated housing Minister at the Commonwealth level.

Queenslanders are feeling pressures in the housing market like never before—from increasing costs, both to buy and to rent, to a lack of supply of available homes and delays in building supply and Labor chains.

Federal Labor's \$10 billion Housing Australia Future Fund will build 30,000 new social and affordable housing properties in its first five years.

The Federal fund will complement our innovative Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative, announced last year as part of our Housing and Homelessness Action Plan. This budget allocates \$1.9 billion to continue our work on this initiative creating new pathways for our government to work with a range of partners—from private developers to landlords, to other levels of government—to fast track supply of social and affordable housing for Queenslanders in need.

Education cont.

Speaker, coming back to education and we know that the first five years of a child's life are critical to their development. That's why we've increased funding, to reduce out of pocket expenses for families, better support children with disabilities and introduce need based funding across Queensland kindies.

In the Kurwongbah electorate, our Kindy Uplift Pilot program saw Burpengary, Lawnton and Jinibara kindergartens benefit from over \$73,000 in available State Government funding for this calendar year. And in an expansion of the Kindy Uplift program, 12 early childhood care services across my electorate will be eligible for between \$3000 and \$25,000 each in State Government funding for kindy programs from next year. Great news for local families.

And Speaker, our bonza budget for education also includes:

- improving internet access at all Queensland state schools;
- \$80.6 million over 3 years for a new resourcing model to support students with disability in our schools;
- \$13.3 million in 2022—23 to expand the Share the Dignity in Queensland Schools initiative to fund the installation of Dignity Vending Machines in all state schools, outdoor education centres and student residential facilities;
- a \$100 million Go for Gold grant program to enable schools to build high-end sporting infrastructure;
- and
- a \$20 million funding grant program for the construction and renovation of playgrounds and tuckshops.

I look forward to sharing details of the last two programs with my local schools as they become available—I know there will be keen interest!

Conclusion

Speaker, I am proud to be part of the Palaszczuk Labor Government. We're leading the nation on jobs growth, economic growth, retail trade growth, merchandise export growth and business investment growth.

And we've delivered a budget surplus while still investing in good jobs, better services, and a great lifestyle for Queenslanders.

Speaker, I commend this Bill to the House.