




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 22 February 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Job Creation

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.55 am): Whilst some in this place spent the summer recess digging dirt and throwing mud, the Palaszczuk government spent it creating jobs for Queenslanders. While some members thought only about keeping their own job and the job that they covet, Palaszczuk government members were focussed on the job—

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Mr Speaker, you were correct in your advice before: standing orders have not changed and I suspect the conventions have not changed in terms of ministerial statements not being political but being an opportunity for ministers to update the people of Queensland on matters of public importance.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Kawana. You are correct that standing orders have not changed and I am glad that you raise that again. I will say, though, that conventions are conventions and they rely on all members of the House doing the appropriate thing.

Dr MILES: While all that was happening, Palaszczuk government members were focused on the job that matters: creating jobs for Queenslanders. While Scott Morrison spent the summer trying to learn new jobs instead of doing his own, we spent it creating new jobs: 17,400 new jobs in the past month alone, including jobs for actual hairdressers and actual welders. Queenslanders want their government to create jobs for Queenslanders. They want a government that puts them and their interests first. Our COVID-19 economic recovery plan is working, with more Queenslanders in jobs now than ever before.

As you say, Mr Speaker, today might be Twosday but my favourite number right now is four: 4.4 per cent is the unemployment rate in Queensland thanks to our economic recovery plan. In the last round of labour force data, Australia as a whole created a net of 12,900 new jobs, but in Queensland we created 17,400 last month. That means that without Queensland Australia would have gone backwards. Perhaps for his next pretend job the Prime Minister could pretend to be a newsagent. He could choose a nice ‘thank you’ card to send to the Premier.