




Speech By
Brittany Lauga

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

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MOTION

State Development and Regional Industries Committee, 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games

 **Ms LAUGA** (Keppel—ALP) (5.38 pm): I rise to speak against the opposition's motion and in support of the minister's amended motion. Mr Deputy Speaker, you might know the names Anna Meares, Cathy Freeman, Joel Coughlan, Mark Knowles, Jamie Dwyer, Duncan Armstrong, Hec Hogan, Bradford Cooper, Kenrick Tucker and Glen Housman. These men and women are all Olympians and Paralympians from Central Queensland, and our region is incredibly proud of their achievements.

Central Queenslanders are tough. We produce champions. Maybe it is something in the water—I do not know—but I am excited about our prospects of producing Brisbane 2032 Olympians and Paralympians, maybe even a gold medallist. I know our region is optimistic of our chances too, particularly given that recently 22 young Central Queenslanders have been shortlisted for the YouFor2032 program—a talent identification program to ensure more Queenslanders are identified in the lead-up to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Brisbane, Queensland. This program will give these young Queenslanders the potential opportunity to participate in Paris 2024, LA 2028 and ultimately Brisbane 2032. Hosting the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games is an opportunity to help regional cities secure more international sporting and entertainment events over the next nine years and beyond. I am determined that regional Queensland will benefit from every opportunity.

The amended motion calls on members to support the games, but it also calls on members to support keeping progressive coal royalties, which means more cost-of-living relief, better services and Queensland's Big Build. I support progressive coal royalties, as does everyone on this side of the chamber and as do the majority of my community. Progressive coal royalties mean that the royalties generated from our resources—Queenslanders' resources—go back into good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle.

Working in mining, quarrying or gas is a dangerous job—one of the most dangerous jobs any Australian can do. I want to thank the mine, quarry and gas workers of Queensland, and in particular those who live in my electorate of Keppel, for their skills, expertise and labour and their blood, sweat and tears which have gone into extracting the resources for which the royalties are paid and from which we have been able to deliver the biggest surplus of any government in Australia's history. I want to give a shout-out to my friends Aaron Gosper, Trent Nelson, Dan Bowman, Bryn and Ellie Cronshaw, Darren Blackwood and Mitch Hughes who all work in mining and have helped deliver this surplus through their work. We can deliver our state's biggest cost-of-living program and our state's biggest building program and deliver lower debt because of one simple reason: progressive coal royalties.

It is time for those opposite and all political parties to make a public declaration on whether they support progressive coal royalties in their entirety or not. At the 2020 election the LNP committed to a 10-year freeze on all coal royalties to 2030. If the opposition had their way, Queenslanders would have missed out on \$5.7 billion in progressive coal royalties in this year alone and \$1.5 billion across the

forward estimates. A total of \$7.2 billion would have been completely obliterated if the LNP had their way. So I am asking: what would the LNP have cut out of this budget to pay for their royalty freeze? Would they cut—or should I say 'prune'—the \$550 electricity rebate? Would they cut free kindy? Would they cut the increase to the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme? Would they cut the new Moranbah Hospital in the electorate of Burdekin?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. Resume your seat, member for Keppel. I am going to take some advice. Member for Keppel, your contribution seems to be straying very far from either the motion or the amendment. I bring you back to the substance of either the motion or the amendment.

Ms LAUGA: It is not enough to say that you support the cost-of-living measures without supporting progressive coal royalties. You cannot have your cake and eat it too. For as long as there is a Labor government in this state, we will keep progressive coal royalties, but will the LNP publicly support coal royalties in their entirety and all that they deliver for Queenslanders by voting in support of this amended motion? Tonight is your night: put your money where your mouth is, admit you were wrong to promise a royalty freeze and back the Palaszczuk government's progressive coal royalties. No more of this evasion, vagueness, ambivalence or ambiguity from the LNP. I call on those opposite to come clean and vote in support of the amended motion and back our government's progressive coal royalties tonight.