




Speech By
Bruce Saunders

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Maryborough Electorate, Train Manufacturing

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (2.59 pm): I want to give a big shout-out to the people of Maryborough—the best electorate and one of the oldest electorates in Queensland. I am here today in this place talking about my favourite subject—

Mr Harper: Trains!

Mr SAUNDERS:—trains! I will take that interjection from the member for Thuringowa: trains, trains and more trains. I realised the other day that I have a bit of a problem, and that is because I like trains. While I am on my feet I would also like to thank the minister and member for Miller because Maryborough is on track—do you get it? We have heard so much from those opposite about the contract recently, but let me explain. What is now happening thanks to the Palaszczuk Labor government—Labor government—is that we now have contracts set in place for 35 years. You can imagine how good that is for my community. We have extended it from 15 to 35 years.

Mr Harper: What's the LNP doing?

Mr SAUNDERS: They are taking the machete out to cut, cut, cut. I can feel it now—there are 800 cuts coming into the electorate. Not only that; we are getting a 10-kilometre test track, which is absolutely fantastic. It is one of the longest and best test tracks in the Southern Hemisphere. We have hundreds of jobs. One of my local business just got the contract to supply all of the PPE for the builder of the train factory. More local jobs! We are not outsourcing our jobs overseas: we are staying local. Our jobs are at Torbanlea. Torbanlea is 25 kilometres north of Maryborough and they are looking forward to it. This has been fantastic news for my community and it is being delivered by the Palaszczuk Labor government, which is reinvesting in regional Queensland and keeping the skill set there. Not only that, but they are working with all of the high schools in Hervey Bay and Maryborough so that our young people can have a career. They can stay in the area, raise their children, buy a house and have a career locally. That is what a good Labor government does. We reinvest in regional Queensland.

We know what those opposite did with the NGR trains, but we brought them back to Maryborough. We are repairing them in Maryborough and getting them on track. We hear them talk, especially the member for Chatsworth, who is going to give us a bit of tough love again if he ever gets back into power. I do not want his tough love. I do not want his love at all and neither does the Maryborough electorate. We do not want his love. He can keep his love on his own side. The rectification works to the NGRs are on time and on budget. We are powering ahead because of the great skill set we have in the great city of Maryborough.