




Speech By
David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

Record of Proceedings, 21 February 2023

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment, Performance

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (2.28 pm): The Treasurer has now established that he is a triple threat to the Queensland economy. If we were in musical theatre, that would be something worth celebrating. I do not know whether the Treasurer can sing or dance, but we know he certainly can act because he is acting and moonlighting as a Treasurer all too badly. What do I mean when I say that the Treasurer is a triple threat to the Queensland economy? He offers and has established threats domestically, nationally and internationally in just one year. He is a triple threat to the Queensland economy. Internationally, we have seen him offend Japanese investment in this state by an indiscriminate use of coal royalties.

Just today we have seen Blackwater being sold by BHP. There are real ramifications of the Treasurer's failure to get tax policy right. Nationally, he is a threat to the Queensland economy. To see this we need only look at his renters tax, which we saw abandoned by the Premier in the most embarrassing manner possible. Now over summer we have seen that he is a local threat to the Queensland economy as he wants to introduce a patients tax on people who can least afford it.

I am going to pick up on a refrain that the opposition leader used today when he talked about good governments and spoke about good treasurers. Good treasurers would not indiscriminately increase royalties without consultation with the industry. Good treasurers would not drive out investment and drive up rents in the middle of a housing crisis. Good treasurers would not drive up emergency presentations and drive down bulk-billing in the middle of a health crisis. I am certain that good treasurers would not make it more expensive to go and see your doctor in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis. He is not a good treasurer. We know that he is a bad treasurer, and it is the people of Queensland who will pay for it.

I am going to say one kind thing about the Treasurer today: he does understand the doctrine of the separation of powers. We saw him use some really interesting words during that bizarre week when minister after minister was trying to work out where they stood on the 'media stunt' comments by the Deputy Premier. We watched them all with bemusement as they were trying to get their heads around what they believed: 'Should we attack the judiciary or not?'

One other reason the Treasurer could counsel his frontbench colleagues is that he knows what it is like to be abandoned by the Premier. We saw the Premier abandon the Treasurer on the renters tax issue. I table a document.

Tabled paper: Cartoons by Lethbridge depicting the Premier and Treasurer regarding land tax [169](#).

We saw it again when the Treasurer was abandoned on the patients tax. We saw it last week in Toowoomba as the ministers who came to my city were abandoned by the Treasurer on breach of bail. Just a few days ago they were there defending the indefensible about breach of bail. They came to our city and ran a line which now has proven to be false. They have stolen our ideas, and we needed them to because we have had a crime crisis in Toowoomba for far too long.

Ms LINARD: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. He is once again anticipating debate on this particular issue, which is now a bill before the House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): I was about to pause the clock and have that exact conversation. Member, I believe that you are straying towards anticipating the debate. I would ask you to move on.

Mr JANETZKI: What there is no debate about is the death of 75-year-old Robert Brown in the main street outside the main shopping centre in Toowoomba.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Toowoomba South, I know that you have professional experience in this area. Can you assure me that that matter is not sub judice?

Government members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I not asking for any assistance. I believe that those offenders are in custody, so there is obviously a charge. You can continue.

Mr JANETZKI: The member for Toowoomba North and I have spoken repeatedly in this House. There have been petitions, speeches and representations, and none of it is for nought. I pay tribute to the editorial position of the Toowoomba *Chronicle*, which stood up and went hard on this particular issue. I acknowledge that effort, because our community was crying out for somebody to speak for it, and now we have seen it.

I turn again to the crime forum. As we were sitting there listening to the government ministers—the local media raised it, the *Chronicle* raised it and my people continue to raise it—we had one overarching question: where was the Premier? In our moment of need, in our moment of crisis, when our community was crying out for leadership, the Premier was absent and remains absent. This government is completely lacking direction and is bereft of any leadership whatsoever.

(Time expired)