



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)

Appropriation Bill

Economics and Governance Committee, Report

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (12.00 pm): I am going to draw a sharp contrast to the contribution of the Treasurer. The committee responsible for the portfolio area of Treasury is responsible for talking about the things that matter. Right now that is the cost of living and a series of other issues putting pressure on households throughout Queensland. As the chaos and crisis continues to build in this government, the Treasurer continues to grow ever more irrational and more unhinged in his contributions in this House. We have just heard a five-minute contribution from the Treasurer of this state and not a single mention of the cost-of-living crisis facing Queenslanders.

There are two key features that we need from a Treasurer in Queensland. The first is the accountability that the Treasurer provides to his Cabinet Budget Review Committee. We have heard again today that the transport minister has been woefully caught out in a series of versions of events. What we do know is that the Cabinet Budget Review Committee, with the Treasurer on it, is leaking, and it is the people of Queensland who deserve answers as to why. Why is it leaking? Why is not every single dollar currently under review by the Cabinet Budget Review Committee given the respect it deserves?

Accountability also runs into the projects that are announced in the budget. The hydro project is apparently the cornerstone underpinning their Jobs and Energy Plan and there is not a single dollar in the capital statements for that project. The Treasurer can come in here and make ever-increasing irrational and unhinged contributions, but the simple truth is what is he doing to drive down cost-of-living pressures. How is he putting downward pressure—

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Pause the clock! Treasurer, cease your interjections or I will warn you.

Mr JANETZKI: How is the Treasurer solving the service delivery crises in Queensland that will put downward pressure on the cost-of-living crisis facing Queenslanders?

Another key feature of what the Treasurer should be doing is building confidence in the Queensland economy. We know that he has been a threat to the local, national and international economy. He has offered threats. He has broken promises—26 times he promised no new or increased taxes. What has he done? He has broken these promises time and time again. The Treasurer is happy

to trash Queensland's reputation to save his own. We know that we cannot trust a single word that the Treasurer says in relation to taxes in this state. He has chosen to pick fights with everybody. He has chosen to launch war on every industry in every sector imaginable in our economy. We know that the Treasurer is fighting with those who employ us, with those who house us and with those who heal us. It is on this point that the Treasurer talked about the responses at estimates.

I call out the Treasurer on the patients tax because it remains a significant issue around the nation, particularly in New South Wales and Victoria. What we heard in Queensland should alarm people. It is now clear the Treasurer has never modelled what the patients tax will mean to bulk-billing rates in Queensland. The Treasurer has never modelled what it will mean for emergency departments when this patient tax starts. The Treasurer never modelled what it will mean for residents in aged-care facilities if their bulk-billing doctor stops coming to visit or increases the cost. It is up to the Treasurer to model and explain to the House and to the people of Queensland why he is making it more expensive to see a doctor in the middle of a health crisis.

In my remaining time, I want to pass one last comment and that is in relation to the member for Logan as chair of the committee. Nearly half of all the questions I asked were interrupted, were commented upon or were subject to general interference. We have heard from the Leader of the Opposition why we need the estimates process to be fixed. We need it to be fixed to bring transparency back to Queensland. We need it to be fixed to make sure that the people of Queensland understand where every last dollar of their hard-earned taxes is going.

(Time expired)