




Speech By
Daniel Purdie

MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

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**PROGRESSIVE COAL ROYALTIES PROTECTION (KEEP THEM IN THE BANK)
BILL**

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (3.36 pm): I rise to make a short contribution to the Progressive Coal Royalties Protection (Keep Them in the Bank) Bill 2024. As we have heard, the purpose of the bill is to amend the Mineral Resources Act 1989 to introduce a coal royalty rate floor, ensuring that regulations cannot prescribe coal royalty rates lower than those periodically prescribed. This requires parliamentary consideration for any decrease in coal royalty rates, ensuring progressive coal royalties cannot be removed without the parliament's endorsement. However, let's not be fooled: everyone in this House is well aware of the political motivations for this legislation.

As we have heard, the Treasurer and those opposite have used this debate to repeat unfounded accusations that the LNP will oppose the government's coal royalty hike and reverse them should we form government. This legislation does not prevent royalties from being changed; its only practical outcome is increased legal complications associated with doing so. If there is anyone who is immune to the pressures facing Queenslanders, it is this Treasurer. Staring down from his ivory tower, this is a treasurer who, as the shadow Treasurer has already alluded to, is more interested in fake scare campaigns and cheap political stunts than in dealing with the real pressures and challenges that Queenslanders are dealing with every day. This is the same Treasurer who has form when it comes to deception and misrepresentations—a treasurer who has repeatedly broken his promise to Queenslanders not once, not twice but at least 26 times. We know that nothing he says can be trusted. He is more interested in running a narrative that is based on misrepresentations and false information than actually delivering anything of substance that could make a real, long-term and sustainable difference.

This begs the question as to why the Treasurer, who continues to boldly announce how coal royalties are being reinvested into regional communities, has yet to provide Queenslanders with an itemised list of exactly where every dollar has been spent. I can assure members that this is not lost on Queenslanders and they will not be misled again. For a decade they have been hoodwinked by the false promises of rivers of gold flowing from our resources industry. In reality, though, Queensland has become ground zero in the cost-of-living crisis, and skyrocketing costs and inflation figures prove it. Under this government, Queenslanders are facing the steepest cost increases in the nation. Labor's failures continue to cost Queenslanders in the hip pocket. When a government fails to invest in our road network, it is Queensland motorists who see their fuel bills grow through congestion. When governments let youth crime grow out of control, it is Queenslanders who see their insurance premiums go through the roof. The more cost blowouts there are on infrastructure, according to the IMF, the more inflation surges. Every dollar an incompetent Labor minister wastes is a dollar that cannot go into the pocket of a Queenslanders who is struggling.

Labor's chaos and crisis is leaving Queensland families with difficult decisions to make around the kitchen table. The only way Queenslanders can expect change is to vote for it in October. Only a LNP government will respect taxpayer dollars and deliver projects on time and on budget. We will re-establish the productivity commission and ensure we get the best bang for our buck and deliver the services and infrastructure our state needs.

It has come to my attention that during the contribution to the Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee report on the 2024-25 budget estimates I unintentionally misrepresented the provisions of the relevant legislation by mistakenly stating that the minister decided to redact that information from the public in an RTI document. I appreciate that I was mistaken and apologise to the House.

I also wish to correct the record around my statement in relation to the government's commitment to recruit an additional 1,450 police officers being a broken promise. What I should have said was that the government has still not recruited the 1,450 police it committed to by 2025. I am informed that the minister never refused to apologise for failing to meet this commitment, but to the best of my knowledge has still not done so.

Before I resume my seat, with the indulgence of the House I would like to take a moment to pass on my deep condolences to the family of the off-duty police officer who was tragically killed overnight during the Wall to Wall: Ride for Remembrance. This is truly devastating and heartbreaking news to come out of an event to honour the life of fallen officers. Our thoughts are with his family, his friends and colleagues and all our hardworking police officers who every day put their lives on the line to serve our community. May he rest in peace.