



Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**

**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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Record of Proceedings, 1 May 2024

**MOTION**

**Miles Labor Government, Travel Expenses**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (5.10 pm): I move—

That this House calls on the Premier to detail to the House by 22 May 2024 the total cost of using the two luxury jets by the Premier and the Minister for Police and Community Safety between, and inclusive of, Monday 22 April 2024 and Friday 26 April 2024 by (i) individual aircraft and (ii) individual sectors as Queenslanders struggle with the cost-of-living crisis.

We know what has happened this week to the airline Bonza. Obviously the government were not supporting Bonza when they were deciding to fly up and down the coast.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** No, no. The Premier has defended this ridiculous spend. The police minister and the Premier obviously do not like each other. They obviously do not speak to each other. They obviously have to go to the same places but they cannot sit on the same plane. We are talking about a luxury jet that can sit approximately 10 people. The police minister was so nervous—

**Mr Bleijie:** Why couldn't he fit on the plane?

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** I take that interjection: why couldn't he fit on the plane? Maybe the police minister is a nervous flyer. Maybe the Premier did not want to hear from the police minister about what the local police officers were saying on the ground about the increase in the crime rates across the state, so they had to hop up and down the coast separately. In the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, we know the Premier's defence for spending—we are guesstimating and that is why we moved this motion today—let's say \$60,000 on—

**An opposition member:** More than that.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** More than that? I will take that interjection. We are guessing. What do you think a second-year nurse in Queensland gets paid? They get paid roughly \$63,000. That is what my daughter is getting. Look at the nurses in this state who are struggling through the cost-of-living crisis, yet the Premier and police minister and goodness knows how many other staffers and hangers-on had to go. No-one turned up to their press conferences, so they needed all of their staff around them to make it look like someone was listening. What do you say to those families whose electricity has gone up 20 per cent and because of the crime rate their insurance is going through the roof? The cost of putting sporting equipment on their kids is going through the roof. People are making the decision to not even send their kids to local sport on weekends. Why? Because we have a government that is so out of touch with the cost of living.

The Treasurer of this state stood in this House again today with a straight face and tried to say that Queensland has one of the lowest electricity costs in the nation. How out of touch is this guy? Seriously! The Premier tries to excuse two jets hopping up and down the coast as regional travel. I have

news for the Premier: going up the coast is not regional travel; that is coastal travel. Just like a seagull he goes pop, pop, pop up the coast. We all know what seagulls do. That is basically what this Premier has done up and down the coast on not only Monday but also Tuesday. Then he wanted to sleep in his own bed, so he comes all the way back to Brisbane. Then he pop, pop, pops up the coast again just like a seagull. That is not regional Queensland hopping; that is going up and down the coast of Queensland.

Let's have a look at some of the time they spent in coastal Queensland. On Monday he arrived in Townsville. Let's give credit to the very fast driver who probably got him to town. Let's give him 20 minutes. Then he would need another 20 minutes to get back, so he was literally on the ground in Townsville for less than an hour. The one that I think is hilarious is that he arrives in Cairns at 6.07, so he races down the tarmac, jumps in a very fast car, gets into town and tries to meet someone, has a snooze for the night—I am sure he had dinner with someone, probably the CFMEU or someone—then wakes up the next morning and has to zoom out to the airport and be back on the jet plane by 8.27. This is a Premier who is so out of touch that even when he is in coastal Queensland he does not spend any time listening to Queenslanders who are struggling with the cost of living.

We have a police minister who is too scared to fly with the Premier and we have a Premier who does not even talk to the police minister. Let's say they spent \$60,000. That is \$6,500 per hour per jet plane and it is completely unacceptable. One of my constituents said, 'With all due respect, they went to Townsville. They had to take two jets in case one got stolen.'