



Speech By  
**Hon. Glenn Butcher**


**MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 June 2024

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Budget, Cost of Living**

 **Hon. GJ BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water) (9.59 am): The Miles Labor government's budget is delivering big for Queenslanders with more than \$11.2 billion in cost-of-living relief such as rego relief, \$1,000 off power bills, more money for FairPlay vouchers for more Queensland kids, freezing government fees and making it easier to own your first home. We are doing what matters for Queenslanders because we listen and we deliver.

Our record cost-of-living relief does not end with households. This budget builds on our record investment in manufacturing grants money to Queensland manufacturing businesses to purchase the equipment and technology they need to grow and create more jobs here in Queensland. The budget locks in \$52 million in grants, including \$25 million in brand new funding. There is \$20 million for Made in Queensland and \$5 million for our Manufacturing Hubs Grant Program, ensuring a huge part of our manufacturing spend is invested in regional Queensland. This additional investment lifts our grant funding to over \$170 million—that is right: \$170 million in hip-pocket relief for our hardworking manufacturing businesses—for vital equipment, increased productivity, innovation and more opportunities, because we back our manufacturing industry. The best part of all of this investment is that it has created and supported more than 7,800 jobs right across Queensland.

Businesses are expanding their product lines. They are reshoring their operations to Queensland and hiring more Queensland workers because we are a government that wants to see more products stamped 'Made in Queensland'. Our support has helped transform businesses like Priestley's Gourmet Delights. I recently joined Xanny and her team to unveil their new state-of-the-art, AI powered manufacturing facility in Acacia Ridge. I am proud the Miles government helped bring this facility to life with a \$2.5 million Made in Queensland grant for equipment which has helped to onshore the production of one of their key products, which I am sure many in this chamber have enjoyed—the lava cake. The upgrade made possible by our grant has created 21 new jobs and means Priestley's will add another 56 staff by 2026. We are seeing businesses right across Queensland transform and create more local jobs thanks to our manufacturing grants. Manufacturing will always get a mention in a Labor budget—unlike the LNP, who cannot bring themselves to mention the word because their priority is to see these manufacturing jobs sent overseas.