




Speech By
Julianne Gilbert

MEMBER FOR MACKAY

Record of Proceedings, 7 March 2024

MOTION

Palaszczuk, Hon. A

 **Mrs GILBERT** (Mackay—ALP) (4.05 pm): Just before I start, I would like to say to the member for Hinchinbrook that, even if you are premier-chasing, if it is flooded, forget it. That will put you in good stead.

I would like to say thank you, Annastacia Palaszczuk, the 39th Premier of Queensland. Thank you for your leadership when you were in opposition and also in government. You got Queensland back on its feet after the savage cuts from those opposite when the Newman government was in. In January 2015 in my electorate, there was high unemployment, empty homes and businesses had shut down. There was a sense of no hope for the future until the Palaszczuk government began rebuilding. It started with the Vines Creek bridges. The port of Mackay has had record levels of commodities moving in and out because of the new bridges. We had upgrades to the Mackay Hospital, which included a 24/7 heart catheter lab, people no longer having to be flown to Townsville, a dedicated paediatrics ward, upgrades to mental health and much more. We also had the rebuild of the Sarina Hospital and a brand new Moranbah Hospital is under way, and that legacy is being continued by Steven Miles.

She kept us safe during COVID and, just as importantly, she kept our industries around Mackay open. Our sugar industry is going strong and our minerals industry is really strong. So much has been built in my electorate because of Annastacia Palaszczuk. Thank you very much.