




Speech By
Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR ALBERT

Record of Proceedings, 10 November 2016

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Trump, President-Elect of the United States; Albert Electorate, Construction Industry

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (2.36 pm): Firstly, I want to congratulate the newly elected President of the United States, Donald Trump, on being elected the 45th President. I hope all Americans get behind him to turn that nation back into a truly great nation.

Today I rise to once again speak about the greatest electorate in Queensland—the Albert electorate, positioned on the northern Gold Coast and southern Logan City. The construction industry is the lifeblood for many families in my region. It puts food on the table and pays the bills. Without a strong construction industry, Queensland's economy threatens to stall. This has deep ramifications for residents in my electorate and the small and medium businesses dotted throughout my electorate. The *Courier-Mail* of 4 November had an article titled 'Queensland construction industry downturn threatens thousands of jobs'. The article stated—

Masters Builders Queensland is calling on the State Government to boost spending on schools, hospitals and other public buildings to avoid job loss as the high-rise residential boom ends.

Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics showed building approvals across the state fell by 12 per cent in September.

Another *Courier-Mail* article titled 'Queensland construction firms head south in search of lucrative contracts' stated—

Queensland construction companies are headed south as big infrastructure projects in New South Wales and Victoria offer more work than their home state. New South Wales has emerged as the nation epicentre of civil engineering works, with major upgrades to the Pacific Highway among the infrastructure projects ... Queensland has fallen from a peak of more than \$40 billion during the mining booms to below \$20 billion.

Tradies in my electorate are sick and tired of hearing the buzzwords with no meaning and no job outcomes for them. They want construction jobs to participate in building this great state. They do not want hollow words, spurious rhetoric and spin whilst we embrace the word 'innovation'. There are many in my community who fear the word 'innovation' as they fear that they are going to be left behind. We cannot forget what Queenslanders are good at, and that is farming, resources, tourism and, especially residents in my electorate, construction. They are ready and waiting to build, but we need to get rid of this do-nothing Labor government that panders to the Greens and hates Queensland businesses but supports multinationals. This self-praising Palaszczuk government can only be classed as a mob of lemmings with little red books titled 'Innovation for Dummies' as they follow their fearless leader as they walk off the cliff.