



Speech By  
**Dr Christian Rowan**

**MEMBER FOR MOGGILL**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 July 2020

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (2.31 pm): The Palaszczuk state Labor government was woefully unprepared for such a health and economic crisis as we have seen with the COVID-19 pandemic. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, under Labor Queensland has had either the highest or second highest unemployment rate of any state jurisdiction, and today's Australian Bureau of Statistics are damning of this Labor government. Business confidence under Labor has been the lowest in Queensland of any state jurisdiction as well. Queensland also has the highest number of bankruptcies and the highest rate of business failure, all due to this incompetent Palaszczuk state Labor government. What about debt? Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, debt in Queensland under Labor was heading to \$91.8 billion over the forward estimates, with it now being projected to reach \$100 billion.

As the Liberal National Party shadow minister for communities, disability services and seniors and shadow minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships, over the last three years I have visited numerous communities throughout Queensland and just so many Queenslanders have raised with me the many failures of the Palaszczuk state Labor government. With respect to our health system, Queenslanders are absolutely fed up with a state Labor government that is generating longer surgical waitlists and allowing significant ambulance ramping to return as the so-called normal to Queensland's hospital emergency departments.

On schools and education, while the Palaszczuk state Labor government has been focused on its own integrity and accountability scandals, parents and students are crying out for a curriculum that actually teaches our students the foundation skills that they need to get a job and succeed in life. Parents and schools also want certainty and choice, and that is why the Liberal National Party is committed to supporting the vital independent public schools model which has worked for so many schools across Queensland, including my schools in the electorate of Moggill.

When it comes to both community and child safety, Queenslanders know that Labor has all but given up on ensuring the safety of our communities and our most vulnerable, and that is why the Liberal National Party has already announced a comprehensive plan aimed at implementing tougher laws to reduce crime, particularly youth crime. The Liberal National Party will also fix Queensland's broken child safety system. We are going to implement a full overhaul and create a new child protection force working 24 hours a day, seven days a week to protect our children.

**Ms Farmer** interjected.

**Dr ROWAN:** I hear the Minister for Child Safety interjecting. The minister has failed our most vulnerable in Queensland. The LNP will fix up Labor's mess when it comes to child safety in Queensland. Labor has failed, whether it is with respect to our economy, whether it is with respect to protecting jobs, whether it is with respect to health and education or public transport. It is a simple fact that the Palaszczuk state Labor government has failed Queenslanders, not only in the electorate of

Moggill but the western suburbs of Brisbane. The Liberal National Party is committed to improving the economic, health, education and social outcomes of all Queenslanders. It is only the LNP that will get Queensland working again.