



Speech By  
**Dale Last**


**MEMBER FOR BURDEKIN**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2021

**MOTION**

**Federal Budget**

 **Mr LAST** (Burdekin—LNP) (4.40 pm): I have seen some stunts in this place over the last couple of terms, but the Treasurer coming in here today and dropping this motion on the parliament with no notice, turning tail and not even sticking around for the debate takes the cake. Have a look at the poor old member for Townsville! He is the only minister left in this place because none of his colleagues could be bothered to show up to debate the federal budget.

**Ms PUGH:** Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. It is convention not to reflect on the absence or otherwise of a member from this place. I seek your guidance, Mr Deputy Speaker.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): I am just taking some advice in relation to that exact point. Member for Burdekin, it is the convention not to comment on the absence of a member from the chamber, and I would give you that guidance.

**Mr LAST:** I will focus on the member for Townsville, the Minister for Resources, because he has the ticker to show up and take it and contribute to this debate.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Direct your comments through the chair, please.

**Mr LAST:** Let's not forget for one minute what happened last December. The Treasurer came in here and told us that debt had blown out to \$28 billion, and here we go again. Here we go again softening this parliament up, softening up Queensland and getting everyone ready, because here we go again. I will back it in that when that budget comes down next month we will see what this mob has to say—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order, member. We will use correct parliamentary terms.

**Mr LAST:** We will see what those on the other side of the chamber have to say in a couple of weeks time when the budget comes down. We will see another massive blowout in debt levels in this state and more debt being lumped on to everyday Queenslanders from this incompetent Labor government. Have a look at the facts; they do not lie. Queensland is sixth for economic performance and last for economic growth. Private investment is collapsing, down from 4.6 per cent in December to three per cent. Only 12 per cent of Queensland's budget is being spent on infrastructure. I have hospitals that are falling down because of termites, and members on the other side of the chamber would have us believe that is the federal government's fault. It is everyone else's fault but this government.

They need to be held to account, and we will hold them to account in a couple of weeks time when the next budget comes down because Queenslanders deserve better than to have a government that blames everyone else. The Treasurer may be like a cornered rat looking for someone to blame, looking for any excuse as to why we are in this trouble, but the trouble lies firmly at the feet of this Labor government and we should never forget it.

*(Time expired)*