


Queensland Parliament Hansard Green

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SUBJECT: (no subject found)

MEMBER: Ms LAUGA

 **Ms LAUGA** (Keppel—ALP) (4.50 pm): This afternoon it is quite clear that those opposite have been completely caught by surprise. The LNP's frontbench are madly typing away, bashing away at the keys: 'Quick, there's a motion about our federal mates' budget this afternoon. I know, I'll get onto Google.' I would love to see their search history: 'federal budget good things'. The computer says no to that, so plan B is to get on the blower to Canberra. I noticed the member for Buderim on the phone, in and out, talking to his mates in Canberra: 'Frydo, mate, we're under fire in parly. Can you flick me some material?'

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members!

Ms LAUGA: The speech writers on level 9 are in overdrive: 'Quick, we've got to get our response to the motion.'

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Mickelberg interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Buderim, you have just made a contribution. You have been interjecting loudly and constantly. You are on a warning.

Ms LAUGA: Then we had the member for Clayfield, who came in here and defended this federal government's budget—defending the indefensible really. Maybe he is effectively trying to cosy up to the Prime Minister and this is part of a bigger plan. Knock off Trevor Evans or someone nearby, using the same tactics that the LNP used on him to try and get his own federal seat and maybe try a political career plan B, or is it C or D or E?

I rise to speak in support of this motion moved by the Treasurer because Queensland is the fastest-growing state in the nation and our students, teachers and parents deserve their fair share from the federal government. The Morrison government has been dragged kicking and screaming to finally make a commitment to a four-year kindergarten agreement. We have been fighting for this agreement for eight years. I will be interested to see the details of this announcement, including Queensland's allocation of this funding.

I hope though that the LNP's bean counters in Canberra are not using the same wicked formula that has been used for infrastructure funding. I hope they do not use that same formula for kindergarten funding. Queensland is being punished by Scott Morrison and Josh Frydenberg. How can any of those opposite think it is okay for Queensland to get \$1.6 billion, when New South Wales is getting \$3.3 billion, South Australia is getting \$3.2 billion and Victoria is getting \$3 billion? Queensland has endured eight years of policy funding neglect from the federal LNP that has left the kindergarten sector and families in limbo. As a kindy mum, I know how incredibly important the early years development of our children is. All the literature is clear: kindergarten gives children the confidence in learning and expands their knowledge and connection of themselves, family, culture, their environment and the broader community. I support the motion.

(Time expired)