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SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON R.J. HAWKE, AC, MP,  
AT THE QUEENSLAND ELECTION CAMPAIGN OPENING  
BRISBANE

2 OCTOBER 1983

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THERE'S NO DOUBT AT ALL THAT THE ELECTIONS ON THE  
22ND OF OCTOBER ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT IN QUEENSLAND FOR MORE  
THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY.

THAT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE OF WHAT THIS ELECTION MEANS  
TO QUEENSLAND.

IT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO AUSTRALIA,

BECAUSE, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN  
THE FULL ECONOMIC RECOVERY WE ARE WORKING FOR IN AUSTRALIA -  
FOR THE WHOLE OF AUSTRALIA - WITHOUT THE MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION  
AND EFFORT AND CO-OPERATION FROM THIS GREAT STATE OF QUEENSLAND,

AND ONLY THE WRIGHT GOVERNMENT - THE WRIGHT LABOR  
GOVERNMENT - THE KEITH WRIGHT LABOR GOVERNMENT - CAN GIVE  
THAT CONTRIBUTION, THAT CO-OPERATION.

AND I DO NOT SAY THAT IN ANY NARROW PARTY POLITICAL SENSE.

IT IS JUST A STATEMENT OF FACT.

IT'S NOT ONLY A MATTER OF THE PROGRESSIVE POLICIES,  
THE LABOR POLICIES, THAT KEITH WRIGHT IS PRESENTING TO THE PEOPLE  
OF QUEENSLAND.

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AND IT'S NOT JUST A MATTER OF KEITH WRIGHT'S COMMITMENT - AND LABOR'S COMMITMENT - TO CO-OPERATION WITH OUR AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO SECURE THE BEST POSSIBLE DEAL FOR QUEENSLAND AND QUEENSLANDERS.

AND IT'S NOT JUST A MATTER OF THE REFUSAL BY THE FORMER COALITION GOVERNMENT, AND NOW BY THE SO-CALLED MINORITY GOVERNMENT - TO PARTICIPATE IN JOB CREATION SCHEMES AND THE RECOVERY PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY OUR GOVERNMENT, OR EVEN TO SPEND THE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WE HAVE PROVIDED FOR QUEENSLAND TO CREATE JOBS HERE.

ALL THESE MATTERS ARE IMPORTANT AND SERIOUS.

BUT OVERRIDING THEM ALL, IS THE FUNDAMENTAL FACT THAT ONLY A LABOR VICTORY ON THE 22ND OF OCTOBER CAN RESTORE STABILITY AND DEMOCRACY TO QUEENSLAND.

EVERY QUEENSLANDER KNOWS THIS AS WELL AS I DO.

ANY OTHER RESULT THAN A LABOR VICTORY MUST MEAN EVEN MORE INSTABILITY - AN EVEN WORSE CRISIS - THAN THE ONE WHICH BEGAN TWO MONTHS AGO.

AND UNLESS THERE IS A RETURN TO STABILITY - THE STABILITY THAT ONLY A WRIGHT GOVERNMENT CAN GUARANTEE - THEN QUEENSLAND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET ON WITH THE JOB, ALONG WITH THE REST OF AUSTRALIA, OF BEATING THE GREAT PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES WE ALL FACE TOGETHER.

AND THAT'S WHY THE ELECTION ON THE 22ND OF OCTOBER IS SO VITAL FOR QUEENSLAND AND AUSTRALIA - FOR ALL QUEENSLANDERS, FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS.

AND LET ME STRESS THIS POINT: THE OVERWHELMING NEED FOR QUEENSLAND AND AUSTRALIA AT THIS CRITICAL POINT IN OUR HISTORY IS GENUINE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS, BUSINESS AND UNIONS.

AND SPEAKING FOR THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR GOVERNMENT, THE CO-OPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MY GOVERNMENT AND THE AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IS UNPRECEDENTED - CLOSER AND MORE GENUINELY CONSTRUCTIVE THAN AT ANY TIME IN OUR COUNTRY'S HISTORY.

AND IT'S THAT SORT OF CO-OPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS WHICH THE WRIGHT LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL BRING TO QUEENSLAND.

IT'S TRUE THE TASK AHEAD FOR KEITH WRIGHT AND THE LABOR PARTY IN QUEENSLAND OVER THE NEXT THREE WEEKS IS MASSIVE.

IN TERMS OF SEATS WE HAVE TO WIN, IT IS A BIG GAP TO CLOSE.

BUT AFTER NEWPORT, THERE'S NOTHING DAUNTING ABOUT THAT.

WHAT COUNTS IS THE BEST SKIPPER AND THE BEST TEAM,  
AND CAN THERE BE ANY DOUBT THAT THAT IS JUST WHAT WE HAVE IN  
QUEENSLAND - WITH KEITH WRIGHT AND A LABOR PARTY, VIGOROUS AND  
UNITED, READY FOR ACTION, READY FOR GOVERNMENT?

IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE PEOPLE AROUND AUSTRALIA HAVE  
SHOWN THAT WHAT THEY WANT IS THE STABLE, MODERATE, COMPASSIONATE,  
CO-OPERATIVE, PROGRESSIVE GOVERNMENT THAT ONLY LABOR CAN PROVIDE.

NOW IT IS QUEENSLAND'S TURN.

THE 22ND OF OCTOBER WILL BE A GREAT DAY FOR LABOR.

IT WILL BE A GREAT DAY FOR QUEENSLAND.

IT WILL BE A GREAT DAY FOR AUSTRALIA.

KEITH WRIGHT WILL BRING TO THE GOVERNMENT OF  
QUEENSLAND THE QUALITIES OF VIGOUR AND VISION, COMPASSION AND  
CONCERN, UNDERSTANDING OF THE REAL NEEDS AND PROBLEMS OF THE  
PEOPLE, AND NOT LEAST, THE INTEGRITY, THAT QUEENSLAND SO  
BADLY NEEDS.

THERE COULDN'T BE A CLEARER CHOICE, A CLEARER  
CONTRAST, WITH THE ALTERNATIVE.

AND I REPEAT AND EMPHASISE: THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO A LABOR VICTORY AND A WRIGHT LABOR GOVERNMENT ON THE 22ND OF OCTOBER, IF YOU ARE TO HAVE ANY SEMBLANCE OF STABLE, DECENT, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN THIS GREAT STATE OF QUEENSLAND.

QUEENSLANDERS AND FELLOW AUSTRALIANS, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INTRODUCE TO YOU THE LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY IN QUEENSLAND, THE NEXT PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND - KEITH WRIGHT.

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