



Senator Sue Boyce
Queensland

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 31, 2010

**STATE GOVERNMENT REGIONAL TAX PROPOSAL FUTILE IN
FACE OF RUDD'S MINING TAX**

Any proposal to lower State payroll tax in rural and regional areas cannot overcome the regional economic devastation caused by the Rudd government's proposed super tax on the mining industry, Liberal Senator Sue Boyce said today.

"While a lower State payroll tax would be welcome in regional and rural areas, the key tax issue there is the Rudd government's huge tax on the mining industry," Senator Boyce said.

"This Rudd tax will have a devastating effect on employment and business confidence in Queensland – and the first areas to feel that impact would be rural and regional areas.

"It's conservatively estimated that for every mining job, up to three other jobs are generated. Mining company after mining company is rethinking their Australian investment," she said.

Senator Boyce said the Bligh Government would be best occupied lobbying against Federal Labor's RSPT.

"Yes, the Premier should very seriously consider the LGAQ proposal, but right now she should be campaigning strenuously against the Rudd government's mining tax. It is this tax that has the potential of inflicting serious damage on Queensland's economy and devastating rural areas," Senator Boyce said.

"If this mining industry super tax goes ahead the rate of payroll tax on many small businesses will be little more than academic as they could be wiped out."

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