



News

Pauline Hanson launches Townsville offensive with pledge for every state seat

Pauline Hanson has put the Coalition on notice, declaring One Nation could capture 40 per cent of the regional vote and that Angus Taylor's team cannot win without her party's help.

Andrew McKaysmith Follow

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Senator Pauline Hanson, Leader of One Nation, at the official launch of Wounded Heroes Australia 24-Hour Challenge for FNQ veterans and Defence families. Picture: Shae Beplate.

One Nation leader Pauline Hanson has launched a regional offensive in Townsville, claiming her party could capture up to 40 per cent of the vote.

The senator was in the garrison city for a charity launch for Wounded Heroes, where she met veteran families and supporters.

"The average national poll that was shown is about 29 to 30 per cent, and it's holding at that," Senator Hanson said.

"But in some of the rural and regional areas, they're predicting as high as 35, even 40% of the vote. So I'm very pleased with that".

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Mrs Hanson also pledged to run candidates across the entire state at the next Queensland election to force major parties to deliver.



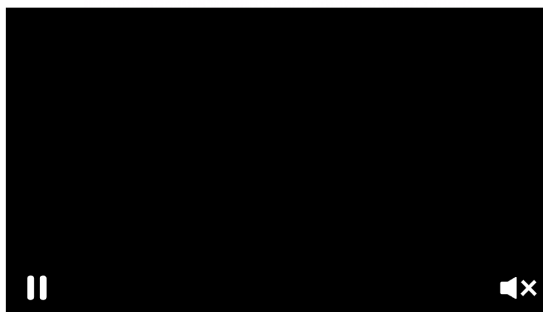
Senator Pauline Hanson, Leader of One Nation, at the official launch of Wounded Heroes Australia 24-Hour Challenge for FNQ veterans and Defence families.
Picture: Shae Beplate.

“At the next election, we will restore [stand candidates] in every seat in this state,” Ms Hanson said.

“We’ve actually forced both the government and the opposition to really do better for the people. It’s about keeping them on their toes”.

Her regional push comes as Queensland Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie brushed off the threat of One Nation earlier in the day, declaring the government was focused purely on delivery rather than preference deals.

Mr Bleijie said the state government was refusing to engage in early political negotiations for the 2028 election.



“The next state election is well over two years away (and) I’m not even getting into preferences,” Mr Bleijie said.

“Any of that discussion is well over two and a half years away”.



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Carl Burnett, Veterans First Consulting community manager, Keven Chapman, co-founder of Veterans First Consulting, Kim Shaw, Philanthropy Manager at Wounded Heroes and Janelle Poole, MP at the official launch of Wounded Heroes Australia 24-Hour Challenge for FNQ veterans and Defence families. Picture: Shae Beplate.

Senator Hanson warned the Coalition against arrogance, targeting the federal opposition leader and state leaders over their reliance on One Nation preferences.

She said the Coalition would fail to secure government without her party's preference flows.

"Angus Taylor needs to actually really wake up, get rid of the arrogance that's shown by some of those in his cabinet towards One Nation," Senator Hanson said.

"I'm telling you now, they will not win their seats [or] take government without assistance or help from One Nation".

The clash over preferences coincides with a battle for the veteran vote, as the state government promotes its newly launched "Veterans and Veterans Families strategy" alongside a separate \$3m state defence grant to establish the Townsville Aviation Centre of Excellence.

The state funding, matched by Aviation Australia for a \$6m total co-investment, forms part of the state government's rebranded "Defence Q" industry push, which the Deputy Premier confirmed is unashamedly aimed at signalling that "Queensland is open for defence business".

Senator Hanson accused the federal government of stripping \$1bn annually from frontline veteran care, leaving charities to support suicidal servicemen turned away from public hospitals.



Queensland Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie alongside regional MPs Adam Baillie (Member for Townsville), Janelle Poole (Member for Mundingburra), and Natalie Marr (Member for Thuringowa), as well as Aviation Australia CEO Glenn Ryan, regarding Queensland's grant funding to expand local defence and industrial capabilities. September 2026. Image – Andrew McKaysmith.

"They've actually pulled back on the funding and what I've heard is about a billion dollars a year," Senator Hanson said.

"And as I questioned in Senate Estimates: 'Name me one hospital that would take a veteran now if they required that assistance.' They couldn't name one hospital".

Wounded Heroes president Martin Shaw said the charity received no government funding, costing an extra \$30,000

monthly, while the charity’s patron, retired Lieutenant General Greg Bilton, revealed that daily crisis support calls had risen from nine to 27 nationally.

“They’re allowing [charities] to pick up the pieces because they don’t want to spend the money,” Senator Hanson said.

“They’re forcing organisations like this and the general public to pick up where they’re not prepared to do the job”.

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rocky 2 days ago

The 2028 Queensland election is not "well over 2 and a half years away" like Bleijie says otherwise it will be in 2029. The latest it can be is the last Saturday in October, which is at most, 2 years and just under 2 months away.

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Anthony 2 days ago

I won't be voting for Pauline's party but I can't wait to see who her candidates are. If nothing else they are usually entertaining.

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Diol 3 days ago

Hanson has vowed that North Queensland will never be free of the financial boat anchor that is the south east corner, and on that basis alone, ON will never get my vote.

Plus I was here that last time a bunch of ON politicians got into parliament. Yeah, very much nah. The rest of Australia can do what it thinks is best, ON is not for us.

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Dr Crockcity JP 3 days ago

Senator Hanson accused the federal government of stripping \$1bn annually from frontline veteran care, leaving charities to support suicidal servicemen turned away from public hospitals.

But for some reason she wants to strip about \$5B from the budget by dropping the tobacco excise.

It's all about populist statements and no economic reality with ON. Vote her in and within 1 year we'll have another Whitlam experience and become the laughing stock of the world - after the US of course.

Like Reply Report

Ross 3 days ago (Edited)

The "\$5bn giveaway" line is backwards — excise revenue's already collapsed from \$16.3bn to \$5.5bn thanks to the black market, with enforcement costs climbing to chase it.

Like 7 Reply Report

Joe 3 days ago

@Dr Crockcity JP, by lowering the excise you will collapse the black market trade thus gaining lost excise in the budget, restoring the budget

Like 7 Reply Report

Darrel 3 days ago

I don't think Angus Taylor or Phillip Thompson have anything to worry about. Election is still about 18 months away. By the time the election comes people will be saying PAULINE WHO. Her gloss will soon fade.

Like 3 Reply Report

Dr Crockcity JP 3 days ago

Correct - because her comments are targeting Crisafulli. Pauline doesn't do political rhyming rap so he might find himself in a spot of bother.

*Mrs Hanson also pledged to run candidates across the entire **state at the next Queensland election** to force major parties to deliver.*

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Timothy 3 days ago

Pauline Hanson and One Nation sure my and my wife's vote all locked up. Pauline and One Natikn is fantastic for Australia

Like 3 Reply Report

Ian 3 days ago

Oh great , the political crap they all aligned to (themselves) just gets louder , and still nothing changes, just a different face smiling back at you.

Like 1 Reply Report

stephen 3 days ago

That gives Troy Thompson another shot!!!! Yeah? Na...

Like 2 Reply Report

Sue 3 days ago

Enough is enough paying past politicians to much to run a business broke and get rewarded. They need to be punished

Like 1 Reply Report

The Elephant

3 days ago

Great, Townsville politics needs a huge shake-up.

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Diol

3 days ago

We have already done that at the last election. Time to see what they do in the longer term.

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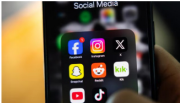
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