



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hansard Home Page: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/hansard>

Email: hansard@parliament.qld.gov.au

Phone (07) 3553 6344

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, 26 November 2024

Subject	Page
OPENING OF PARLIAMENT	1
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Proclamation, dated 14 November 2024, summoning the Legislative Assembly to a session on 26 November 2024.	1
COMMISSION TO OPEN PARLIAMENT	2
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Commission, dated 14 November 2024, to open the session of the Legislative Assembly on 26 November 2024.	2
COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH OR AFFIRMATION	2
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Commission, dated 14 November 2024, to administer the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance and of Office.	2
RETURN OF WRIT	3
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Writ for the general election held on 26 October 2024.	4
MEMBERS SWORN	4
ELECTION OF SPEAKER	5
PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER	9
SPEAKER'S STATEMENT	9
Official Photograph	9
SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT	9
ADJOURNMENT	10
ATTENDANCE	10



Legislative Assembly


FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

Appointed to meet

AT BRISBANE ON THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, IN THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REIGN OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2024.

TUESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2024

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

 Pursuant to the proclamation by Her Excellency the Governor, dated 14 November 2024, appointing parliament to meet this day for the dispatch of business, the House met at 10 am in the Legislative Assembly chamber.

The Clerk read the following proclamation—

Constitution of Queensland 2001

KING CHARLES THE THIRD, by the Grace of God,

King of Australia and His other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth.

I, DR JEANNETTE ROSITA YOUNG AC PSM, Governor, acting under sections 15(1) and 18 of the Constitution of Queensland 2001, in the name of His Majesty summon the Legislative Assembly of Queensland to a session to commence at 10.00 am on 26 November 2024 at Parliament House, George Street, Brisbane.

(Sgd)

Signed and sealed with the Public Seal of the State on 14 November 2024.

By Command

(Sgd)

D Crisafulli

RECORDED in the Register of Patents, No. 54, page 1, on 14 November 2024.

(Sgd)

Clerk of the Executive Council

Tabled paper: Proclamation, dated 14 November 2024, summoning the Legislative Assembly to a session on 26 November 2024 [\[26\]](#).

COMMISSION TO OPEN PARLIAMENT

 The Clerk informed the House that Her Excellency the Governor, not being able conveniently to be present in person this day, has issued a commission under the public seal of the state authorising the Hon. David Frank Crisafulli, the Hon. Jarrod Pieter Bleijie and the Hon. David Carl Janetzki to cause the opening and holding of this session of parliament.

The Clerk read the following commission—

Queensland

KING CHARLES THE THIRD, by the Grace of God,

King of Australia and His other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth.

To the Honourable DAVID FRANK CRISAFULLI and the Honourable JARROD PIETER BLEIJIE and the Honourable DAVID CARL JANETZKI.

I, DR JEANNETTE ROSITA YOUNG AC PSM, Governor, authorise you, or any of you—

- (a) in my name and on my behalf to open the session of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland to commence on 26 November 2024; and
- (b) to do in my name and on my behalf anything required to be done in the name of His Majesty or of the Governor in relation to the opening and holding of the session.

(Sgd)

Signed and sealed with the Public Seal of the State on 14 November 2024.

By Command

(Sgd)

D Crisafulli


RECORDED in the Register of Patents, No. 54, page 2, on 14 November 2024.

(Sgd)

Clerk of the Executive Council

Tabled paper: Commission, dated 14 November 2024, to open the session of the Legislative Assembly on 26 November 2024 [\[27\]](#).

COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH OR AFFIRMATION

 **The SENIOR COMMISSIONER** (Hon. David Crisafulli—Broadwater): I produce a commission under the public seal of the state authorising myself, the Hon. Jarrod Pieter Bleijie and the Hon. David Carl Janetzki, or any one of us, to administer to any member of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland the oath or affirmation of allegiance and of office that is required by law to be taken or made by every member before the member is permitted to sit or vote in the Legislative Assembly. I ask the Clerk to read the Commission.

The Clerk read the following commission—

Queensland

Constitution of Queensland 2001

To the Honourable DAVID FRANK CRISAFULLI and the Honourable JARROD PIETER BLEIJIE and the Honourable DAVID CARL JANETZKI.

I, DR JEANNETTE ROSITA YOUNG AC PSM, Governor, acting under section 22 of the Constitution of Queensland 2001, authorise you, or any of you, to administer to any member of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance and of Office that is required to be taken or made by every member before the member is permitted to sit or vote in the Legislative Assembly.

(Sgd)

Signed and sealed with the Public Seal of the State on 14 November 2024.

By Command

(Sgd)


RECORDED in the Register of Patents, No. 54, page 3, on 14 November 2024.

(Sgd)

Clerk of the Executive Council

Tabled paper: Commission, dated 14 November 2024, to administer the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance and of Office [\[28\]](#).

RETURN OF WRIT


 The Clerk informed the House that the writ for the various electoral districts had been returned to him, and was endorsed as follows—

Algester—Leeanne Margaret Enoch	Keppel—Nigel Grantly Hutton
Aspley—Bart John Mellish	Kurwongbah—Shane Roderick King
Bancroft—Christopher Guy Whiting	Lockyer—James John McDonald
Barron River—Bree Georgina James	Logan—Linus Patrick Power
Bonney—Samuel Thomas O'Connor	Lytton—Joan Ellen Pease
Broadwater—David Frank Crisafulli	Macalister—Melissa Fay McMahon
Buderim—Brent Andrew Mickelberg	Mackay—Nigel John Dalton
Bulimba—Dianne Elizabeth Farmer	Maiwar—Michael Craig Berkman
Bundaberg—Thomas John Smith	Mansfield—Corrine Patricia McMillan
Bundamba—Lance Richard McCallum	Maroochydore—Fiona Stuart Simpson
Burdekin—Dale Raymond Last	Maryborough—John Tazy Barounis
Burleigh—Hermann Heinrich Carl Vorster	McConnel—Ignazia Grace
Burnett—Stephen Andrew Bennett	Mermaid Beach—Raymond Alexander Stevens
Cairns—Michael Patrick Thomas Healy	Miller—Mark Craig Bailey
Callide—Bryson Warwick Head	Mirani—Glen Raymond Kelly
Caloundra—Kendall Jayne Morton	Moggill—Christian Andrew Carr Rowan
Capalaba—Russell Dacre Field	Morayfield—Mark Thomas Ryan
Chatsworth—Steven James Minnikin	Mount Ommaney—Jessica Claire Pugh
Clayfield—Timothy James Nicholls	Mudgeeraba—Rosslyn Mary Bates
Condamine—Patrick Thomas Weir	Mulgrave—Terence Albert James
Cook—David Kempton	Mundingburra—Janelle Maree Poole
Coomera—Michael John Crandon	Murrumba—Steven John Miles
Cooper—Jonty Maree Bush	Nanango—Deborah Kay Frecklington
Currumbin—Laura Jane Gerber	Nicklin—Martin Andrew Hunt
Everton—Timothy Leonard Mander	Ninderry—Daniel Gerard Purdie
Ferny Grove—Mark Lionel Furner	Noosa—Sandra Leigh Bolton
Gaven—Meaghan Alana Jenkins Scanlon	Nudgee—Leanne Maree Linard
Gladstone—Glenn James Butcher	Oodgeroo—Amanda Jane Stoker
Glass House—Andrew Cary Powell	Pine Rivers—Nikki Anne Boyd
Greenslopes—Joseph Patrick Kelly	Pumicestone—Ariana Sophie Doolan
Gregory—Sean Micheal Dillon	Redcliffe—Kerri-Anne Dooley
Gympie—Anthony John Perrett	Redlands—Rebecca Young
Hervey Bay—David John Lawson Lee	Rockhampton—Donna Marcia Kirkland
Hill—Shane Andrew Knuth	Sandgate—Bisma Asif
Hinchinbrook—Nicholas Dametto	Scenic Rim—Jonathan Mark Krause
Inala—Margaret Ellen Nightingale	South Brisbane—Barbara Frances O'Shea
Ipswich—Jennifer Ruth Howard	Southern Downs—James Paul Lister
Ipswich West—Wendy Bourne	Southport—Robert Molhoek
Jordan—Charis Mullen	Springwood—Michael Christopher de Brenni
Kawana—Jarrod Pieter Bleijie	Stafford—James Anthony Sullivan

Stretton—James Robert Martin	Townsville—Adam James Baillie
Surfers Paradise—John-Paul Honore Langbroek	Traeger—Robert Ignatius Katter
Theodore—Mark Andrew Boothman	Warrego—Ann Leahy
Thuringowa—Natalie Deane Marr	Waterford—Shannon Maree Fentiman
Toohey—Peter Samuel Russo	Whitsunday—Amanda Jane Camm
Toowoomba North—Trevor John Watts	Woodridge—Cameron Robert Dick
Toowoomba South—David Carl Janetzki	

Tabled paper: Writ for the general election held on 26 October 2024 [\[29\]](#).

MEMBERS SWORN

 The commissioners, the Hon. David Crisafulli, the Hon. Jarrod Bleijie and the Hon. David Janetzki, administered the oath or affirmation of allegiance and of office to themselves and, having been sworn, signed the Roll of Members.


The CLERK: I note that the member for Stafford has indicated his inability to attend today's proceedings.

The commissioners administered the oath or affirmation of allegiance and of office to the following members, who then signed the Roll of Members—


CRISAFULLI, David Frank	BOURNE, Wendy
BLEIJIE, Jarrod Pieter	BOYD, Nikki Anne
JANETZKI, David Carl	BUSH, Jonty Maree
BATES, Rosslyn Mary	BUTCHER, Glenn James
LAST, Dale Raymond	CRANDON, Michael John
NICHOLLS, Timothy James	DALTON, Nigel John
FRECKLINGTON, Deborah Kay	DAMETTO, Nicholas
LANGBROEK, John-Paul Honore	de BRENNI, Michael Christopher
PURDIE, Daniel Gerard	DICK, Cameron Robert
GERBER, Laura Jane	DILLON, Sean Micheal
MICKELBERG, Brent Andrew	DOOLAN, Ariana Sophie
LEAHY, Ann	DOOLEY, Kerri-Anne
O'CONNOR, Samuel Thomas	ENOCH, Leeanne Margaret
PERRETT, Anthony John	FARMER, Dianne Elizabeth
SIMPSON, Fiona Stuart	FENTIMAN, Shannon Maree
POWELL, Andrew Cary	FIELD, Russell Dacre
CAMM, Amanda Jane	FURNER, Mark Lionel
MANDER, Timothy Leonard	GRACE, Ignazia
MINNIKIN, Steven James	HEAD, Bryson Warwick
ASIF, Bisma	HEALY, Michael Patrick Thomas
BAILEY, Mark Craig	HOWARD, Jennifer Ruth
BAILLIE, Adam James	HUNT, Martin Andrew
BAROUNIS, John Tazy	HUTTON, Nigel Grantly
BENNETT, Stephen Andrew	JAMES, Bree Georgina
BERKMAN, Michael Craig	JAMES, Terence Albert
BOLTON, Sandra Leigh	KATTER, Robert Ignatius
BOOTHMAN, Mark Andrew	KELLY, Glen Raymond

KELLY, Joseph Patrick	MULLEN, Charis
KEMPTON, David	NIGHTINGALE, Margaret Ellen
KING, Shane Roderick	O'SHEA, Barbara Frances
KIRKLAND, Donna Marcia	PEASE, Joan Ellen
KNUTH, Shane Andrew	POOLE, Janelle Maree
KRAUSE, Jonathan Mark	POWER, Linus Patrick
LEE, David John Lawson	PUGH, Jessica Claire
LINARD, Leanne Maree	ROWAN, Christian Andrew Carr
LISTER, James Paul	RUSSO, Peter Samuel
MARR, Natalie Deane	RYAN, Mark Thomas
MARTIN, James Robert	SCANLON, Meaghan Alana Jenkins
McCALLUM, Lance Richard	SMITH, Thomas John
McDONALD, James John	STEVENS, Raymond Alexander
McMAHON, Melissa Fay	STOKER, Amanda Jane
McMILLAN, Corrine Patricia	VORSTER, Hermann Heinrich Carl
MELLISH, Bart John	WATTS, Trevor John
MILES, Steven John	WEIR, Patrick Thomas
MOLHOEK, Robert	WHITING, Christopher Guy
MORTON, Kendall Jayne	YOUNG, Rebecca


ELECTION OF SPEAKER

 **The CLERK:** Honourable members, pursuant to the requirements of section 14 of the Parliament of Queensland Act 2001, members must immediately elect a member to be the Speaker before proceeding to any other business. Standing order 39 provides that the Clerk shall call upon the member present in the House who has served in the House continually for the longest period, and who is not a minister, to take the chair for the purpose of the election of a Speaker. This member is known as the Presiding Member in the standing orders for the purposes of the election of a Speaker.


The longest continually serving member of the Legislative Assembly is Mr Shane Knuth, member for Hill, who was elected on 7 February 2004 and sworn in as a member of the 51st Parliament on 16 March 2004. In accordance with standing order 39, I call on the member for Hill to take the chair as Presiding Member for the purpose of the election of a Speaker.

 **The PRESIDING MEMBER** (Mr Knuth): Honourable members, before calling for nominations for Speaker, I draw the attention of honourable members to the standing orders which provide that any member present in the chamber may be nominated as Speaker; the proposer of a nomination must move that the member take the chair of the House as Speaker; all nominations are to be seconded by a member; members who have been nominated are required to indicate if they accept the nomination; and after all nominations have been made, seconded and accepted, debate will then ensue.

Debate on nominations shall be relevant to the question. In accordance with past practice, debate will occur regardless of the number of nominations received and a time limit of five minutes will apply to all speeches. I remind honourable members that the provisions of the standing orders apply to this debate. I also remind honourable members that whilst in the chair the Presiding Member has all the powers and authorities of the Speaker. I now call for nominations.

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (10.45 am): Mr Presiding Member, I nominate the honourable member for Condamine, Patrick Thomas Weir. I move—


That the honourable member take the chair of the House as Speaker.

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (10.46 am): Mr Presiding Member, I second the nomination and the motion moved by the Premier and Minister for Veterans.

The PRESIDING MEMBER: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

Mr WEIR: I accept the nomination.

The PRESIDING MEMBER: There being no further nominations, I call the Premier and Minister for Veterans.

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (10.46 am): Mr Presiding Member, at the outset I welcome all members to the 58th Parliament of Queensland. It is a privilege to nominate the member for Condamine for the high and honourable office of Speaker. The role of Speaker in Westminster parliaments is respected and admired. It is a role that is steeped in history. There have been 37 people who have held the position of Speaker of this House since 1860 and each has brought their own experiences and qualities to this role. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the former Speaker, Hon. Curtis Pitt, whose time in the office concluded yesterday after almost seven years of service. I wish Mr Pitt all the best for his future.


The member for Condamine is well respected by members on all sides of this House and I believe that, if elected, he will bring a fair and measured approach to the role of Speaker. The member for Condamine was born in Toowoomba and grew up on the family farm in Cecil Plains. He was educated at the Cecil Plains state primary and high schools and he worked on the family farm, helping his father and uncle to produce dryland crops and cattle. In his late teens and early 20s, the member moved north and spent some time working as a builder's labourer in Cairns. I note the member spent his 21st birthday working on Lizard Island and then worked on an exploration drilling rig in the Tanami Desert in the Northern Territory.

Shortly after this, though, the member's father and uncle both sadly passed away. This left the member with the opportunity to purchase the family farm in Cecil Plains from his mother. I understand that immediately after the purchase a drought set in and the member was unable to grow any grain for two years and he was forced to handfeed his cattle. While several good seasons followed, enabling some impressive crops to be grown, devastating floods then came, ruining the member's crops and those of many of his neighbours. Working on the land has certainly given the member for Condamine an appreciation of the hardships in life and of the optimism and determination of those who work the land. These are wonderful traits, and I believe the member will bring those traits to the office of Speaker. I note that, if elected, the member would be the first member representing a rural Darling Downs based electorate to be Speaker of this House since Sir Alan Fletcher served in this role from 1957 to 1960.

Since his election to this House in 2015, the member for Condamine has served in a variety of parliamentary positions. He has been a shadow minister and a deputy opposition whip and he has served on several portfolio committees, including as deputy chair. Importantly, the member has served for several years as a temporary Speaker and also as an alternate for the Leader of the Opposition on the Committee of the Legislative Assembly. In these two roles the member has gained experience presiding over the sittings in this House as well as behind-the-scenes exposure to parliamentary and legislative processes and practices.

Honourable members, the member for Condamine is respected within his electorate as a hardworking and diligent member of the parliament. If elected, these are the qualities that the member will bring to the role of Speaker, not only in the chair in this House but also as a representative of this House in its relations with other authorities and persons outside of the parliament including on ceremonial and formal occasions.

Mr Presiding Member, the 58th Parliament of Queensland has much significant business ahead of it. I have full confidence that, if elected as Speaker, the member for Condamine will bring a fair and measured approach to the role of Speaker. He will allow robust but respectful debate, as necessary, as well as strive to do the best for the people of Queensland and allow all of us to do the same. Mr Presiding Member, I commend the member for Condamine to the House for election to the position of Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (10.50 am): Mr Presiding Member, it gives me great honour to second the motion moved by the Premier and Minister for Veterans that the member for Condamine take the chair as Speaker. There is no member in this place that I feel would better be Speaker than the member for Condamine. Member for Mermaid Beach, that will come as a surprise to you, I know! But the member for Condamine is best placed to be elected to serve as Speaker of this House.


I have known the member for Condamine for a long time. I have enjoyed his friendship and mentorship over many years. I enjoyed FarmFest on the occasions that the member for Condamine requested the presence of me and others. He knows everybody in the community. There are two things about the member for Condamine: his love for community and his love for this institution.

Honourable members may know that I am a traditionalist and have some traditional values. I have tried to convince or persuade or bribe the member for Condamine that he should instil a bit of traditionalism into the role of Speaker, break the glass cabinet that sits downstairs and bring out the wig and the gown. Alas, he has rejected my approach. He will be a modern Speaker of this parliament. However, I must disclose to honourable members that, even though the member for Condamine rejected that offer I made to him, he is known to enjoy a bit of dress-up himself. I can reveal for honourable members that when he was on the campaign trail in the Barron River electorate he dressed up as Ken—Barbie Ken—for a community event with the new member for Barron River.


Mr Molhoek: Was he wearing a wig?

Mr BLEIJIE: No, not at that stage, member for Southport, but I am reliably informed by a good associate of and hard worker for the member for Condamine over many years that he did attend the Oakey Junior Cricket Club dressed up in a tutu and a wig, so he is accustomed to wearing wigs! You have about five minutes to make your mind up, member for Condamine!

As I said, Presiding Member, there is no better member in this place to serve as Speaker. The member for Condamine will serve with distinction. He will be fair to all members. I ask him not to be too fair to the opposition. Do not follow the lead of Speaker Simpson; her time was harder on the government of the day than the opposition! I am not sure you can reflect on Speakers past, but she certainly was. I look forward to the next four years. I think the parliament will be a better place with the member for Condamine as the Speaker of the institution he holds dear. I know that all members will be best served with the member for Condamine in that role. I encourage all honourable members to vote today to elect the member for Condamine as Speaker.

 **Mr MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.53 am): Presiding Member, I rise to speak to the motion regarding the election of the Speaker of the 58th Parliament of Queensland. As the Presiding Member and, indeed, all honourable members who are present in this chamber know, the role of the Speaker is a sacred one. It is a role that needs to be discharged with integrity and with honour and a role that needs to be discharged with fairness and impartiality—not for a political party, not for an individual cause and not for a certain ideological bent but for the parliament as a whole, and for and on behalf of the people of Queensland. If we have an impartial and effective Speaker in this chamber then, ultimately, Queenslanders will benefit and so will democracy. This is a chamber of debate and ideas. I know that, in particular, this 58th Parliament will be one of rigorous debate and scrutiny. This is healthy for democracy.

I am advised that since 1908 there have been 22 contested ballots for Speaker and 19 uncontested. While the opposition of the day will not always support the government, on this occasion the opposition will support the government's nominee for Speaker of the 58th Parliament. We do this because we believe the member for Condamine will live up to the expectations of Queenslanders by being a fair and impartial Speaker—one who allows rigorous debate but maintains order for the benefit of democracy and Queenslanders.


 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (10.55 am): Presiding Member, as you have heard from the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Murrumba, Labor members of this House constituting the state opposition will be supporting the nomination of the member for Condamine to be the Speaker of the 58th Parliament of Queensland. As all members of this House, whether new or returning, know, the Speaker plays a crucial role in the effective functioning of this House and, as a consequence, its central role in the proper functioning of our state's democracy. To underscore the importance of the role of Speaker, perhaps I can begin with a quote—

... this chamber should be a place of ideas and energy, and I want to allow debate to flow and the very best ideas to be exchanged in a respectful manner.

What an accurate summary, I think, of what a chamber should be and how it should function. Of course, I quote no greater authority, no better authority, no higher authority, than the 32nd Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives, Milton Dick. Presiding Member, you may call me biased—you have done it before and you will do it again—but if you ask me they are very wise words indeed. I believe that the member for Condamine will do his very best to maintain the level of dignity and respect that the home of our state's democracy demands.


The role of Speaker is not easy. There is no CV or past experience that would point to an ideal candidate, but a man from the land who knows how to get some tough old bulls down the chute or through the dip when they do not want to go—I reckon that is a pretty good start.

I also know that today is a day of great honour not only for the member but also for his family, whom I acknowledge, and for his community including the great Western Downs town of Pittsworth, where my grandmother went to primary school. See, member for Condamine, I am not that bad after all! On that important and crucial note, at least for me, I say to the member for Condamine: good luck.

 **The PRESIDING MEMBER:** Honourable members, as there are no further nominations, I declare the honourable member for Condamine, Patrick Thomas Weir, to be Speaker.

Honourable members: Hear, hear!

Mr Weir was conducted to the chair by the mover and seconder.

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I thank the House for the honour it has conferred on me by electing me as Speaker. I begin by acknowledging that we are gathered on the lands of Aboriginal people and acknowledge their elders past, present and emerging.

Honourable members, I thank you for the incredible honour that you have bestowed on me today. I would like to thank the Premier, David Crisafulli, and the Deputy Premier, Jarrod Bleijie, for their kind words—I am not 100 per cent convinced that the words of the Deputy Premier were all kind!—and for nominating me for this position. I would also like to thank honourable members Steven Miles and Cameron Dick for their words. I really appreciate the nomination being uncontested.

I can honestly say that this was not on my radar when I entered this place or, indeed, until it was raised with me by party leader David Crisafulli. I will admit I was rather taken aback at the time but am now looking forward to the challenge. I believe that I have the honour of being the 37th Speaker of the Queensland parliament since its formation in 1860 and the second from the electorate of Condamine. Sir Alan Fletcher held the seat of Cunningham—as it was known then—from 1953 until 1974, during which time he served as the Speaker from 1957 until 1960. He also served as the minister for lands and, late in his time, as the education minister. I recall Sir Alan visiting, during his time as education minister, the Cecil Plains school, where I was a student, and addressing the students as we were assembled on the playground. I do not recall much of what Sir Alan said in his address, but I do recall that at the end of the address he stated that we were such good students he would give us a holiday on the following Friday. As far as we were concerned, Sir Alan could come back anytime he liked! In the electorate of Condamine we have 37 schools, including a number of small schools such as the one I attended. When I speak to students I tell them that coming from a small country school does not mean they cannot achieve great things in their life.


I would like to acknowledge some visitors in the gallery: my daughter, Amy; my son, Sam; my sisters, Anne-Maree Kowald and Kate Foreman; and Sam's partner, Taylor Burt. I thank you for being here today and for all the support that you have given me over the years.


I would like to welcome returning members to the parliament. I extend a special welcome to the newly elected members taking their place for the first time. I well remember taking my seat in this chamber for the first time in 2015, in the farthest corner of the chamber where the member for Stretton is now sitting. I have slowly moved forward, row by row, over the years to now sit at the extreme opposite end of the chamber from where I started.

We have seen significant changes in this chamber after the recent election, with a change to the government benches after almost 10 years. There are many members—not just myself—who are starting this term in vastly different circumstances than they ended the 57th Parliament. I hope that all members settle into their new roles quickly and seamlessly.

I have served in this parliament since 2015. I have seen this chamber work at its best and, I dare say, at times fall rather short of that standard. We should never forget or take for granted the immense honour it is to represent the public of Queensland in this chamber and the customs, processes and traditions of this House. My simple request to all members is to respect the House and respect the Speaker, and that respect will be reciprocated. Whilst I may have the honour of sitting in the chair, I will need the support of all members of this chamber for it to function at its best for the sake of Queensland. I hope the bipartisan support shown in electing the Speaker today is an indication of that.

I would like to thank the Clerk, Neil Laurie, and all of the parliamentary staff for all that they do to make our members welcome. I would like to thank all of the staff for the work they have done in preparing for the events of this week. I thank Coral and Jennifer in the Speaker's office for all of their assistance. I wish all members the best for the term of the 58th Parliament. Once again, thank you for the honour that you have bestowed upon me today.


 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.03 am): Mr Speaker, I take the opportunity to thank you for accepting the nomination and thank all members for their kind words about you. In your first speech you reflected on where you came from and those humble beginnings and on the importance of allowing all Queenslanders to understand their ability to make a contribution—whoever they are, wherever they are from. I think that was marvellous, as was your acknowledgement of your family and all members of this chamber. The reason you have progressively moved forward in your journey is your grace, your class and your goodwill. I believe that the parliament you preside over will indeed be one of robust debate but that you will set a standard through the way you conduct yourself. I think all members are looking forward to that and looking forward to being in a House that you preside over.

 **Mr MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.04 am): Mr Speaker, on behalf of the opposition, I congratulate you on your election. As the new Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland parliament, it is now your duty to uphold the standards of this House. As the opposition, it is our job to hold this government to account, and you as the Speaker play an important role in that process. It is one that many in this place would not want—that is, to preside over us lot. I have heard the role of Speaker referred to as the ‘principal of the chamber’. As pupils of the 58th Parliament, only time will tell how many of us test the principal’s patience.

Over the years I have witnessed you in this chamber. Whether it be during the 50-odd stints that you presided over the chamber as temporary Speaker or your contributions during speeches, you always conducted yourself with professionalism and dignity—never being personal but debating ideas and policy, whether they related to your electorate of Condamine or to Queensland as a whole. You have also held a number of diverse positions in this parliament since your election in 2015. You have served on a number of portfolio committees, as temporary Speaker, as the Leader of the Opposition’s nominee on the important Committee of the Legislative Assembly, as a shadow minister and as a deputy opposition whip. In your 3,588 days as a member of this chamber you have collected the skills and knowledge that I know will benefit you in your new office as our parliament’s Speaker.


Mr Speaker, you do not need me to tell you that Queensland is a vast and decentralised state. Our state is vast and wide and it is always a unique but special moment when the role of Speaker of this chamber is filled by someone from outside of Brisbane. Speaker, on behalf of the Labor opposition, I congratulate you once again on your election as Speaker. We look forward to working with you over this term of parliament.

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER


 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.06 am): I desire to inform honourable members that Her Excellency the Governor will receive the House for the purpose of presenting the Speaker to Her Excellency at Government House today at 2.30 pm. All members are invited to be present. Transport has been arranged for those members who have not made their own arrangements and will leave the Parliamentary Annexe at 1.45 pm. Honourable members should be at the Parliamentary Annexe main entrance no later than 1.40 pm.

SPEAKER’S STATEMENT

Official Photograph

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, the official photograph of members in the chamber will be taken today. I ask all members to remain in their seats after the House has been adjourned.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT


 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.07 am): I move—

That the House, at its rising, do adjourn until 2.10 pm on Wednesday, 27 November 2024 in the former Legislative Council chamber.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.07 am): I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

Question put—That the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 11.08 am.

ATTENDANCE

Asif, Bailey, Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Berkman, Bleijie, Bolton, Boothman, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, Dametto, de Brenni, Dick, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Field, Frecklington, Furner, Gerber, Grace, Head, Healy, Howard, Hunt, Hutton, James B, James T, Janetzki, Katter, Kelly G, Kelly J, Kempton, King, Kirkland, Knuth, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Linard, Lister, Mander, Marr, Martin, McCallum, McDonald, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Mickelberg, Miles, Minnikin, Molhoek, Morton, Mullen, Nicholls, Nightingale, O'Connor, O'Shea, Pease, Perrett, Poole, Powell, Power, Pugh, Purdie, Rowan, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Simpson, Smith, Stevens, Stoker, Vorster, Watts, Weir, Whiting, Young