




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA

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QUEENSLAND BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Mundingburra—LNP) (Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience) (12.00 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Queensland Building and Construction Commission and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. I will start by speaking on the first part of the name of the bill. I will just talk about three of the changes and why I feel they are beneficial. Then I want to get to the other bit. Often the other bits are the rats and mice. In this case I think it is something very, very powerful and certainly worthwhile. I thank the minister for his work. It is great to have him here. It has been the worth the wait.

The first thing is creating a new part of the act to talk about the different levels of contract. Call it a bit of a tidy up, but I see it as a good step forward. The other is introducing a demerit points system. I think that is a really good thing in cracking down on a very small element of the industry where those unscrupulous builders seek to make hay and profiteer out of misery. I think the changes are sensible. They are very well done, and I again commend the minister. The third thing is about the rapid dispute adjudication. Again, the fact that there is early disputability I think is just such a great step forward when it comes to interaction with consumers.

Let me get to the reason I want to make a contribution, and that is to discuss the changes to the residential tenancies act. Let's boil it down to what this is about. This is about enabling the government to engage those not-for-profit providers in the market to continue our thirst to create more opportunities for those who want social housing. That will be the great legacy of this minister. You can judge people on all sorts of things. You can talk about the amount of money spent. You can talk about the number of hours worked. But here we have a guy who is outcomes focused. The fact that we are streaking ahead of other states when it comes to being able to engage that sector is testament to what has been a great turnaround in the Queensland social housing sector. Judge the minister on many things but, above all, judge him on what he has done to reduce that waiting list.

We can talk about social compassion. Social compassion is getting outcomes for people who deserve them. Every person you take off a long waitlist who deserves to be in social housing is a win for that family and a win for common sense, delivering good social outcomes. Getting good social outcomes is not the monopoly of those who feel that it is all about taking the easy road.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Often it is the difficult decisions that can lead to the best outcomes for those who need that social assistance. I know that the member for Nanango has a keen interest in this. I can feel by her interjections just how passionate she is. I think that is tremendous. She is someone with a strong plan indeed for a bright future.

I want to talk about a social housing provider in my electorate of Mundingburra by the name of Yumba-Meta. They are indeed, as the member for Nanango knows all too well, a wonderful organisation. Later on this month on 31 October I will be attending their 40th birthday celebration.

An honourable member interjected.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I am not representing them. I have seen this organisation's progression in my short time in public life over the course of the last decade. They have been such a wonderful servant to the community they wish to assist. They are also great citizens in the community. When I have had trouble with the tenants in their property they have risen to the challenge. They have always struck a balance in understanding that social housing is not a right; it is a privilege. Those who use it as an opportunity to better themselves and to be able to get their kids off the streets and who use it as an opportunity to go to the next level are those whom we must strive to put in there. Those who abuse it should not be given that privilege. I have every faith in working with organisations like Yumba-Meta to deliver that outcome. Whilst the member for Nanango is urging me to continue, I will end my contribution there by saying there are some excellent changes in this bill, and I commend them to the House.