



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

---

Record of Proceedings, 15 July 2020

**MOTION**

**Coronavirus, JobKeeper**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (4.25 pm): Every time we rise in this place, we should do so with a thirst to do better for the people we represent; we should do so by effecting change in the areas that we are able to change. This motion we are debating today will go for an hour. The government will go round and round in circles. Despite this parliament cancelling sittings—even after the new COVID time line was given, we have had another sitting cancelled—and not finding the time to hand down a budget, it will waste an hour on nothing more than a point-scoring game to try to belt Canberra.

This government has only two items in its playbook: it belts Canberra and it belts the legacy of a government that was in office over half a decade ago. The public accepted the fact that this government did not have an agenda in 2015 because, quite frankly, not only did the public not expect this government to win but this government did not expect to win. That slack will only be cut for so long. Now in the middle of a pandemic where a government does not have a clear economic vision, where the musical chairs have delivered a Treasurer who does not know the debt level, who does not know the levers at his control and whose only response to a ballooning debt is to pull out a dollar bill and say he is going to print in black and white, is it any wonder that people lose faith?

One of the items in this motion talks about the pain in Cairns. This motion is right when it talks about more people being on JobKeeper in Cairns. However, I just came from a delegation to Cairns. Do honourable members want to know what they talked about? They were asking: can there please be an extension on the land rent waiver, the tour operator fee, the port business relief, the commercial tour operator support—things that this parliament has control of.

Do I believe that JobKeeper has been an incredible program that has saved the livelihoods of people in businesses? You betcha! Do I believe that that program should continue for those who are impacted, for those people in those areas who face losing everything? You bet I do! If this parliament believes that its only responsibility is to stand up and play silly games with Canberra at a time when people are yearning for us to deliver an infrastructure vision, a planning vision and an economic vision—they do not want a government to come in and play silly games or a government that was allowed to have no vision for the first half a decade. With a few months to go, this government is running out of time and running out of lives.