




Speech By
Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

Record of Proceedings, 10 March 2021

MOTION

Tourism Industry, Support

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (4.39 pm): We just heard a rousing rendition from the member for Cairns about how stakeholders are telling him that the federal government need to step up. Last week, member for Cairns, I was in Cairns as you know. Those same stakeholders told me that all levels of government need to step up—local government, state government and the federal government.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member for Buderim was clearly just addressing all his points to the member for Cairns across the chamber, directly against the ruling you just made.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): I thank you for the point of order. I was trying to get the member's attention. I was about to remind him that all comments will come through the chair.

Mr MICKELBERG: It is time for the state government to take responsibility, to show some leadership—something that the Premier has been devoid of on all levels. It is time to stop passing the buck from crying 'Canberra' every time they have a problem. It just does not cut it.

The Premier sits at the national cabinet table and yet she is incapable of advocating for the people of Queensland. If she has any influence, then why are we here debating this motion now? The Premier is incapable of advocating for Queenslanders and the evidence is in this motion.

It is very clear that this government is all about the photo opportunity. We saw the Deputy Premier tearing up his little invoice from the New South Wales government. We talk about stupidity from the member for Cairns. If I have ever seen stupidity, it is the actions of the Deputy Premier playing childish games on TV and social media. Last week I was in Cairns and I spoke to Bruce and Danny at the Blu Marlin Bistro near the marina. They told me that the Premier was up there in the weeks prior and that she held a press conference in the exact same spot that I did on Wednesday morning. Do you know what else they told me? The Premier could not even be bothered to come and in say g'day. She could not even be bothered to come in and ask how they were going or to buy a coffee. Is there little wonder that people are losing faith when she wants to use them for a photo opportunity but is not prepared to sit down and have a chat? She does not care. Her actions show that she does not care.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members. Pause the clock. Comments must come through the chair and correct titles must be used.

Mr MICKELBERG: We agree that the federal government needs to continue to help, and it is clear that the federal government has been doing the heavy lifting. There has been more than \$500 billion of federal government stimulus.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr MICKELBERG: It is all right. You will get yours. Three times more support—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I know you are passionate, member for Buderim, but I remind you again. Comments must come through the chair.

Mr MICKELBERG: My apologies, Mr Deputy Speaker. The Queensland government has provided \$1,700 of COVID support per person in Queensland. That is the lowest of any state or territory in Australia. Let's compare that to the federal government. It has provided more than \$10,000 for every Queensland—two per cent of gross state product.

Mrs Frecklington: New South Wales and Victoria.

Mr MICKELBERG: Let's have a look at New South Wales and Victoria. They have provided seven to nine per cent of gross state product. It is time for this government to take responsibility and start walking the walk rather than talking the talk.