



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2021

**MOTION**

**Federal Budget**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (4.13 pm): What a hollow motion, lacking conviction, from a Treasurer so bereft of his brief that he could not even speak for five minutes without notes. He comes waltzing into this place, goading the member for Kawana, and has to read talking points about something that he believes in so deeply. It was as hollow as the promise before the election where the Treasurer said there would only be \$4 billion in borrowings and then whacked up \$28 billion after the election. It is a hollow motion lacking any form of substance.

I thought that, if the Treasurer was going to seek to condemn the federal government and use it as a political weapon, as he specialises in, surely he would not use Victoria as an example of a state that gets its fair share. Victoria is run by a Labor government, so what is the Victorian government doing that this bloke cannot? Why is it that the Victorian government can find a way to get cut-through when this Treasurer can only find ways to fight and bully and make political points? Maybe the reason is that Victoria has invested in infrastructure. Maybe it is because New South Wales has invested in infrastructure.

In the report from Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, where is Queensland ranked for infrastructure spending? We are at sixth. Our spend on infrastructure in this state is at 12 per cent compared to 20 per cent for our eastern seaboard neighbours. I do not need notes to tell me that; that figure is imbedded in my mind because it is an embarrassment. It is an absolute embarrassment.

It is amazing how only a week ago the Prime Minister had to rescue a blowout in light rail on the Gold Coast. Some \$126 million had to be put forward to cover a shortfall. There is still another couple of hundred million dollars that the government has to find on a project that has blown out by 30 per cent. They could not even ice the deal on a tender. There has been not a single mention of that funding contribution—not a single mention. I will tell members why. When a government is bereft of vision, when a government is bereft of an agenda, there is only one way that it can fight for political survival, and that is to find an enemy. What this government has specialised in doing is taking every opportunity to find an argument with Canberra. It does not matter what the issue is; it always has to come up with a way to fight Canberra.

**A government member** interjected.

**Mr CRISAFULLI:** I will take the childish interjection from a chap who will come in this place and wave a jersey around in a childish fashion. I will take the interjection. Why? When I was not happy with the funding contribution from the federal government when it comes to supporting tourism operators, I called it out; I was happy to, but I was also happy to call out the state government's failings, and there were many failings.

If we look at COVID spending, Queensland is again lagging behind our state neighbours. That is not Canberra's fault; that is the state government's fault. They will always seek to find someone to have an argument with. For six years they have drifted. For six years they have had no agenda. They always have to get into a scrap. Do members know who does not win when they are in mindless scraps? Queenslanders do not win.

This motion today will not change a thing. They have not said, 'This is what we are prepared to do'—not a thing. They have not said, 'We will bring forward our spending on the Mooloolah River interchange to get it going'—not a thing. They have not said, 'We will bring forward our money for the Coomera Connector because we are sick of seeing Gold Coast residents stuck in traffic'—not a thing. This is a government without vision. You do not need a script to tell you that.