



Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**


**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 June 2021

## **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL**

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 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (11.10 pm): What an absolute success of a budget. Member for Bundaberg, member for Thuringowa, member for Ipswich West and member for Mansfield, how did you survive that withering attack from the former leader of the opposition who thought the way to the top job was via the New Bradfield Scheme? It is a great honour to reply to the budget delivered by our very talented and hardworking Treasurer who, according to the member for Kawana, is an extremely photogenic Treasurer and a very good dog walker.

**Mr Mander** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Ms Lui): Member for Everton, cease your interjections.

**Mr KELLY:** Please cease your interjections, member for Everton. I have heard all about the statue that you have raised to yourself and now the photograph you have put up of yourself. You have said enough tonight. Before I respond to the budget I did want to respond to some of the things said by those opposite, starting with the efforts of the Leader of the Opposition. There are many of us on this side of the House who, prior today, feared that Derek Zoolander had perished in a freak gasoline accident. But fear not, the spirit of Derek is alive and well and is rocking blue steel in the Queensland parliament. We have the member for Broadwater who delivered a budget speech that will be compulsory reading at the Leader of the Opposition's 'centre for kids who can't budget good and want to learn to do other stuff too.'

The member for Broadwater's speech shows that he is more than up to the job of filling the shoes of previous opposition leaders, and long will he stay there. He has the feet to fill the shoes and the mouth, with wonderful quotes like 'I am ruling out being savage'. Like any good butcher, he will be offering prime cuts, but will they be cuts that make people want to come back again and again? I think not, but perhaps they will be non-savage cuts delivered with velvet scissors.

**Mr Mellish:** Crafty cuts.

**Mr KELLY:** That is a good one—crafty cuts. Enough of the member for Broadwater. I did want to pay tribute to the former opposition leader and I have already alluded to that, but I will start with some comments updating the House on the word on the street from Greenslopes about the New Bradfield Scheme. The people of Greenslopes cannot stop talking about the New Bradfield Scheme. They love the New Bradfield Scheme.

**Mr Mander** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Member for Everton, please cease your interjections.

**Mr KELLY:** I can update the House on the New Bradfield Scheme. Since the last time I spoke on this topic in the last budget reply speech, all I can say is that if the LNP had been elected we would have now had only 14½ years to wait until anything was actually delivered. In fact, the much vaunted

office—I think it is called the parliamentary budget assessment office—is so vaunted, in fact, I do not think I have heard a single member on that side of the House talk about it in their speech. The member for Bancroft talked about it. The office of budgetary assessment would have had a mere 14½ years to assess the New Bradfield Scheme if the LNP had been elected. We know the New Bradfield Scheme is not going to happen and we know the office of budgetary assessment is not going to happen either.

**Ms McMillan:** What about the rego rebate?

**Mr KELLY:** That will not take long either. I do want to turn to serious matters. The Leader of the Opposition used his speech to continue to perpetrate the myth of a health crisis. I do not want to diminish or disregard the serious issues raised by those opposite, but to take individual cases and conflate them to a crisis is the height of intellectual and political laziness.

**Mr Mander** interjected.

**Mr Mickelberg** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Everton and member for Buderim, please cease your interjections.

**Mr KELLY:** It is the height of intellectual and political laziness—

**Mr Mickelberg** interjected.

**Mr KELLY:** As intellectually and politically lazy, might I say, as not listening to the speaker on their feet. I recently saw a post on a local community social media page with extremely positive feedback about a person's recent visit to the Princess Alexandra Hospital emergency department. There were over 60 positive comments accompanying that post. Does this mean everything is perfect in the health system? Do I suddenly go away and conflate that absolutely everything is perfect? I hope you are listening, member, because this is about dealing with confirmation bias, which is something you clearly do not understand.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Member for Greenslopes, please direct all comments through the chair.

**Mr KELLY:** Does the member understand confirmation bias? I think not, because he understands very little. Does this mean that everything in the health system is perfect and we can ignore everything those opposite state? Absolutely not. If there are people in my electorate who have problems with the care they are receiving, and there will be, I support them through those issues. Where there are systemic issues I go to the minister with policy suggestions. What I do not do is come in here and use those individuals and their cases for cheap political gain. That is what continues to happen in this place time and time again. If there is a systems issue I will take an evidence based policy suggestion to the minister. I have done that on many occasions with good result.

The reality is that not one member of the LNP can explain how ramping is fixed by sacking ambos and nurses, which is what they did the last time they were in office. Certainly the member for Mudgeeraba, as the only nurse in this chamber to vote against safe nurse-to-patient ratios, would be hard pressed to explain to any nurse how having more patients for each nurse would help fix ramping. The member for Toowoomba North wants to stomp and scream about building a hospital as his own personal policy suggestion. I would support that every day of the week, as would every single person on this side of the House and that is why we are building more hospitals. That is what this budget is all about. It contains budgetary measures for building more hospitals. Those opposite did not build more hospitals. If it was just a matter of building more hospitals, which is what we are doing, then ramping would be fixed quickly. It is a complex, nationwide problem with some significant causes. There is a crisis in health care; it is called a global pandemic. Those of us who work in health care understand it. Those of us who show up every week and vaccinate people understand that. We also understand how difficult it is for people to see a GP, which is why they are flooding our system. It is a complex issue that we are working hard to resolve, but we will let those opposite continue to be politically and intellectually weak and lazy on this and every other issue.

The Treasurer and Premier are to be congratulated on a fantastic budget. We have economic growth, falling unemployment and huge numbers of people moving to the greatest state in the nation. It is a growth budget for a COVID recovery. It is an infrastructure budget. Schools, hospitals, social housing, roads, public transport—you name it, we are building it. It is a small business budget. There is \$140 million for our small business strategy. There is the Business Investment Fund and the Back to Work program. It is a skills and training budget, making Skilling Queenslanders for Work permanent. Remember that particular program, member for Everton? You should because you cut it. It is an industry development budget with the \$2 billion hydrogen and clean energy fund. That is what they are talking about in the streets of Greenslopes. They are certainly not talking about the New Bradfield Scheme. They are talking about the investment in film and television, infrastructure, small business, training and new industries. This is a COVID recovery budget.