




Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**

**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 October 2021

## **SUPERANNUATION (STATE PUBLIC SECTOR) (SCHEME ADMINISTRATION) AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (3.22 pm): It is interesting to hear that the LNP now have an interest in gender pay inequities. They should talk to anybody on this side of the House, particularly those involved in the union movement, who has been working on this issue for nearly half a century. Perhaps we could teach them a thing or two. I do not recall them having much interest in it when I was sitting around the negotiating table as a union official. Welcome to the issue. I am glad they understand it. I have no idea what relevance this has to this bill, but I am glad that they have finally come to the party. We look forward to some great policy ideas coming forward.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mrs Gerber): Order! Pause the clock. I have called the House to order. Member for Whitsunday, cease your interjections. Member for Nanango, cease your interjections. Member for Pine Rivers, cease your interjections and cross-chamber chatter.

**Mr KELLY:** I put on record that I am a member of QSuper and my wife is a member of Sunsuper. I have no need to do that, but I just thought I would mention it in case the Greens walk in here and pull another one of their stunts and try to cut me out of being able to have my say on this important bill.

It was interesting to once again hear the member for Clayfield peddling the repetitious and tedious line about economic management. I am proud to be part of the Labor Party that are responsible economic managers. It is a tedious and repetitious line he peddles. Last sitting week we were presented with a set of figures that completely and utterly do not fit their narrative. The Treasurer walked in here and announced a figure of 4.9 per cent unemployment. Members should have seen the faces of those on the opposite side of the House drop. They heard the figures and they said, 'This doesn't fit our narrative. We've spent our entire political careers telling people that Labor are terrible economic managers, but those figures do not fit the narrative.' The reality is that we get those figures by being responsible economic managers. That is what this bill is all about.

I will tell members how else we get them? We get them by supporting people in the private sector who put forward good ideas. That is what this bill is all about. We do not get them by being regressive and looking backwards. The member for Callide has indicated that he wants to go to Canberra and join the Barnaby Joyce show and drag our nation backwards. He has no interest in what we are doing in Gladstone in terms of taking an industry forward and encouraging a billion dollars worth of investment from the private sector.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** I rise to a point of order, Madam Deputy Speaker. I ask that you rule on relevance and direct the member come back to the long title of the bill.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Greenslopes, I have been listening carefully and you are straying from the long title of the bill. I will ask you to draw your conclusions back to the long title of the bill.

**Government members** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I hope no member is reflecting on the chair right now.

**Mr KELLY:** As I said, the member for Clayfield explored a range of economic matters in relation to Labor's management of the economy so I am simply exploring some of those matters and pointing out an alternative point of view.

I am proud to be part of a party that is responsible for establishing the modern superannuation system. That means that average, working-class people can have security in their retirement. That is not something that was available to my uncles, my aunties and my parents. It was not something that was available, but the great Australian union moment put that in place. We did it by bringing workers and employers together.

I am pleased to see in this bill—a bill where we are supporting two great Queensland institutions come together—that that will continue to be the case. Workers will continue to have a place and a voice in managing the superannuation funds of members—the majority of which are working people. That is entirely appropriate. This bill will create the second biggest super firm in our country. That is something that Queensland should be proud of. We are becoming the powerhouse state with the Olympics coming our way in 2032. To have the second biggest super firm based in our state—and the senior positions based in our state—is a feather in the cap of our state.

We will continue to have a wealth management fund here that understands Queensland and Queenslanders, understands the sorts of opportunities that the Queensland government is trying to grab hold of and is working with the private sector to grab hold of and understands the jobs of the future that we are trying to create—like the jobs of the future in Gladstone. With those few words, I support the bill. I am pleased to see that the union submissions supported the bill. I commend the bill to the House.