



Speech By  
**Amy MacMahon**


**MEMBER FOR SOUTH BRISBANE**

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Record of Proceedings, 25 May 2022

## ADJOURNMENT

### Federal Election, Greens

 **Dr MacMAHON** (South Brisbane—Grn) (7.19 pm): I want to take a moment to reflect on what happened over the weekend. Against every prediction of the political class and many politicians, the Greens won two new Lower House seats in Queensland, with a third being closely counted as we speak. In just one election we may well quadruple our seats in federal parliament and are on track to have our biggest party room yet with 12 senators. Across the nation, the number of everyday people who went to the ballot box and voted 1 for the Greens has soared. For some in the media and the political class, those results have come as a surprise.

However, the Greens have known for at least six years, since Johnathan Sri won the Gabba ward, that, when you give people the option to vote for someone who genuinely listens and who is fighting for their community first and foremost, people will take that option. We proved that when we won Maiwar and again when we won South Brisbane, despite all the predictions from commentators, and today we wake up in 'Greenland'.

I want to reflect on how this change came about and what it means for the next state election. Very likely there are members wondering what the results will mean for their own political careers. It is no secret how we won Ryan, Griffith and, potentially, Brisbane. We have been up-front about it for years. We go out there and we listen to people at their doorsteps, on their streets, in their communities, during the floods and during COVID, and we connect with them on issues that matter to them. Any progressive movement that is serious about changing the face of politics in Australia should be doing that and we are ready to scale up our campaigns right across the state.

What have we learned? Everyday people are fed up with the political status quo. Whether it is a family struggling to pay the rent in Ipswich, a single parent trying to afford child care in Mackay or a student in Greenslopes who is hoping for a future where they will not have to worry about floods, heatwaves and bushfires, people want change. That is why, across this state and across the country, people voted for a party that is fighting to build a million public homes, cap rents and scrap negative gearing. They voted for a party that is committed to fighting to abolish uni and TAFE fees and scrap student debt. They said 'yes' to a party to phase out coal and gas in 10 years, bring dental and mental health services into Medicare, and tax builders and big corporations. Voters across the country said 'no thanks' to major parties and their corporate backers and 'no thanks' to politicians who help drive up house prices, drive up the cost of living, drive down wages and drive our public services into the ground.

Voters across Queensland voted for change. I am thinking about voters in Paddington, Carina Heights, Greenslopes, Bulimba, Coorparoo, Clayfield and New Farm who are looking at their current sitting members here in the Queensland parliament and are thinking, 'What if I had a representative who was genuinely fighting for me?' Every time you sell off public housing or give subsidies to fossil fuel corporations—

*(Time expired)*