



Speech By
Joseph Kelly

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Record of Proceedings, 17 August 2022


APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)

Appropriation Bill

Health and Environment Committee, Report

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (11.58 am): I think this was my sixth or seventh estimates hearing and, once again, we saw a scintillating performance from the members of the opposition. Every year they seem to ask no questions of any substance and then whinge about the process. In fact, I once went and saw a Conor McGregor UFC fight. It lasted all of 40 seconds. In that time, Conor McGregor's opponent got in more punches than the LNP did on the government. At least the crossbenchers showed up with some decent questions to ask!

The LNP come in here every year and throw up questions about the process and talk about how the government is not giving them enough questions and how the system is not working. It takes a certain degree of arrogance and hubris to come in here and make those allegations and throw those barbs when they are the party that put every single estimates hearing on the same day so that nobody had the opportunity to scrutinise their government in the way it desperately needed to be scrutinised. It takes an absolute mountain of hubris and arrogance to do that yet, once again, we see that happening.

I was so pleased to watch the estimates process. There are only a few minutes left for debate. I would love to spend some time talking about the new member for Callide and his contribution and his vision for the future—let's cut down the trees, let's get rid of the Containers for Change program and if you come near anybody in my town I'm going to bash you up! That is the future for the LNP.

No, I want to talk about what we are doing in health care. I can tell members that I could not wait to get out of this parliament after the budget. On the Saturday morning afterwards I was standing outside the PA Hospital talking to people in my community about the 249 beds that are going into the Princess Alexandra Hospital. That is a fantastic thing—249 beds. If it was only there, I would be excited. It is not just there; it is Cairns, it is Hervey Bay, it is Ipswich, it is Logan, it is Mackay, it is QEII, it is Redcliffe, it is Robina, it is the Prince Charles and it is the Townsville University Hospital—more beds into all of those hospitals, and that is good for my community. I wanted to get out there and tell my community about the investment this government is making in health care.

I would have thought the opposition would have showed up to that estimates hearing to ask some decent and some serious questions. I thought they might have wanted to show up and ask about mental health, about alcohol and other drug services. I thought they would have wanted to show up because they had voted to support the tax measures—the levy measures—that we had put in place to fund—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Greenslopes, the time for consideration of this report has expired.

Mr KELLY: I am sure there will be other opportunities, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am sure.