




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 26 May 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Regional Development

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (2.23 pm): I have no sympathy for the member for Bonney's crocodile tears on the environment when his party never acts on the environment. It has to be pointed out that—

Mr Boothman interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Theodore!

Mr BAILEY:—they do not even have a renewable energy policy, no climate policy—

Ms Farmer interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Bulimba!

Mr BAILEY:—and they come in here with crocodile tears for the environment—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. Member for Bulimba, member for Bonney and member for Theodore, you are under a warning.

Mr BAILEY: I will get to my main point. In replying to the member for Kawana, it is always a relief when he is not wearing a stuffed toy on his shoulder. He has not learned much if he is suggesting that regional Queensland is in any way neglected by this government, which again won seats right across regional Queensland at the last election—member for Bundaberg, member for Hervey Bay, two members on the Sunshine Coast—because this is a government that looks after regional Queensland. Roma Hospital, built by Labor; Kingaroy Hospital, built by Labor; road stimulus and not cuts, Labor. When those opposite were in power they cut the road budget by \$1.6 billion. Trains are made in regional Queensland and not overseas, unlike when those opposite were in government. If they got the chance they would do it again.

Who worked with the ag sector on the dingo-proof fence? It was the Palaszczuk Labor government. There is \$100 million worth of sealing coming as part of the stimulus works, including Warrego Highway upgrades, Dawson Highway upgrades and Bruce Highway upgrades, including more commitments from the new Albanese Labor government. When it comes to looking after regional Queensland, we know the LNP is all talk and no action. In fact, they are anti regions. We might remind them of that. Mr Deputy Speaker, do you remember Strong Choices? You do not ever hear the other side say those two words, do you? They were trying to sell off the Townsville port. They tried to sell off the Gladstone port. They tried to sell off all of the power stations in regional Queensland to the highest bidder. The people of regional Queensland said, 'Not for sale!'

Let's not have any rewriting of history. The fact is that the former member for Callide was treated very badly by those opposite. They shunned him in the party room. They wanted to get rid of him and they succeeded. It is not that he was very talented. At estimates he had four hours to ask me a question and he did not ask me a single one. I look forward to his mute and voiceless approach continuing in

Canberra. He had a massive swing against him in Flynn. It is now one of the most marginal seats in Queensland. We will see how he performs. This is a government that looks after regional Queensland and invests in regional Queensland. We do not sack regional public servants either. We will always look after regional Queensland. That is at the core of our Labor values.