




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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**WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING AND OTHER LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (12.36 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Waste Reduction and Recycling and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. I want to start by placing on the record that waste and the way we manage it is a real opportunity for Queensland. It is an opportunity to do the right thing by the environment and it is an opportunity to do the right thing commercially. If we work with industry, if we work with local government, if we work with the community, there is a genuine opportunity for this to be not only the right thing for the environment but also the right thing for our economy. It starts, however, with setting targets and holding people accountable.

Today during question time, again we saw a government that refuses to be held accountable for what they say they are going to do. Every time we ask a question and ask when something will be done, we get a parroted response to do with either a value of money or some other gobbledygook term. However, no minister is ever held accountable for setting a target. When a minister for the environment—or a former environment minister, who was also the minister for youth, but that disappeared because it does not matter anymore apparently—sets nine waste targets and it becomes obvious that only two of them are on track to be met, what do they do?

Mr Nicholls: Change the targets.

Mr CRISAFULLI: They change the targets. Rather than fixing the mechanics of what they are trying to achieve, they just fix the targets.

I want to make a contribution about the percentage of household waste that gets diverted. The promise was to have a 55 per cent diversion rate by 2025. It went backwards every year for three years. Rather than fixing the amount of waste being diverted, the decision was made to fix the targets, and no-one wins when that occurs.

I will make a comment about industry. Industry is yearning for a bit of leadership in this space. At the moment they are getting it from the shadow minister but they are not getting it from the recycling parade of environment ministers in this state. They are looking for someone to listen to them, someone who is prepared to go and sit down and take the time—not race in and race out—to listen to them about the things they want to achieve.

I want to make a contribution about the changes to the definition of ‘misinformation’. It has been done without any explanation and no consultation. To listen to the response of the Local Government Association of Queensland to this shows they have predicted exactly what this is about. This is not about tightening a definition; this is about muzzling local government officials. It is in the DNA of this government—

Mr Power interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Pause the clock. Member for Logan, you are on a warning. I ask you to leave the chamber for one hour.

Whereupon the honourable member for Logan withdrew from the chamber at 12.39 pm.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Taking out the waste.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Broadwater. Please resume your contribution.

Mr CRISAFULLI: When I reflect on what has happened to elected officials and the push for this government to muzzle them, it is not good enough. The environment matters. The opportunity to do the right thing by the environment and the economy is real. We ask the government to set targets and to meet them.