




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 13 September 2023

MOTION

Health Workers

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (4.11 pm): In relation to what has just transpired from the health minister, if that was an audition to be leader of the left, that was miles away from the sort of contribution that would be expected. If the minister is not even nimble enough to be able to change a point after what she said has been completely kicked out, does it not show honourable members that she is barely up to the job she has, let alone the one she wants?

The health minister is going to rue what she has put in writing because, quite frankly, it is wrong. I will explain how wrong it is. Not only have I called out the member for Burnett's statement as disappointing, I have explained—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, members.

Mr Brown: Pretty soft language.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Oh my goodness, I just got an interjection from the member for Capalaba, who said that was soft language. Mate, I will tell you about soft language.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. All comments will come through the chair and will use correct parliamentary titles.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I spent half an hour with the constituents of the member for Capalaba, who were in tears because of what he said about the crime they are going through, the living hell they have to put up with. For the member for Capalaba to not have had one ounce of consequence for what he said just proves he will keep doing it. I go back to the motion and why it is so wrong.

Not only do our nurses, our doctors, our allied health professionals earn and deserve every cent they get, they deserve more. I will tell honourable members why they deserve more. Under this government they are treated like punching bags. Under this government they get text messages telling them they have to do another shift because the system is so broken. Under this government they have no provision to be listened to, to be heard, to be empowered. Not only do I commit to making sure they are properly paid; we commit that their pay will increase and their conditions will be so much better than they are experiencing now.

Now let me contrast my response with the response of the Premier. Not only did I publicly say I expressed my disappointment and ensured that the minister knew what she is saying is factually incorrect, I addressed it directly with the member. In contrast, I ask: since the Premier came back from her break, has the Premier spoken to the member for Capalaba and called him out? I reckon the answer is no. Since the Premier found out about the \$2.4 billion cover-up, has there been any consequences for the member for Miller? I bet the answer is no. This is a government—

Mr Minnikin interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Chatsworth will cease his interjections.

Mrs D'ATH: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The point of order is relevance. I ask that the member be brought back to—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I will hear the point of order in silence.

Mrs D'ATH:—the motion, which is specifically about health.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will take some advice in relation to that. Members, there is no point of order. Item No. 3 of the motion draws attention to the member for Burnett's public comments. I think there is a section in the motion that refers to the Leader of the Opposition's involvement; I would have to read it more carefully. Effectively, the Leader of the Opposition is simply comparing and contrasting approaches to issues that might be construed to be broadly similar, so it is relevant to the debate.

Mr CRISAFULLI: It has not been a very good week for the member for Waterford, who has been called out as the leaker and is now embarrassed on the second point of the motion. In a week when this government has proven to be at war with itself, in a week when it was refusing to even admit that Queensland Health and youth crime is in crisis in this state, what does the minister responsible for soaring ambulance ramping and releasing less data than the previous minister do? Rather than say, 'Can we have an hour to debate ways that people can respect and value our frontline staff, properly resource them and make sure that we can heal the crisis?', what does she do? In order to try to put on an audition for the backbench, which now includes the member for Woodridge, in order to try to salvage something in this wave of misery that is a government in its third term that is rotting before Queenslanders, that is seeking 14 years in office despite crises in every form of frontline delivery, despite the chaos, despite the crisis, despite every challenge facing hardworking doctors and nurses in their workforce, rather than come in and value and empower them, a government at war with themselves is auditioning for a job. It is saying things that are untrue and is proving its members will never heal the Queensland Health crisis.