




Speech By
Michael Healy

MEMBER FOR CAIRNS

Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2023

MOTION

Liberal National Party, Health

 **Mr HEALY** (Cairns—ALP) (2.30 pm): As the member for Kawana has asked what the Labor Party has done, let us talk about what we have done. Let us have a good, long, hard look at what we have achieved. Since the Palaszczuk government was elected we have employed almost 20,000 additional frontline health workers. We have opened more than 1,700 new hospital beds, with over 3,700 on the way across three new hospitals and 11 hospital expansions, including my hospital up in Cairns which is going to look spectacular. We are looking at a \$26 million expansion of our emergency department. There will be 96 new beds. They are just some of the things we are doing in that space. We are working with the Albanese government to deliver—

Mr O'Connor interjected.

Mr HEALY: I cannot hear you talking.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Bonney, you should know well that you cannot interject from a seat that is not your own seat unless you are in an acting position on the front bench. Please move and stop your interjections.

Mr HEALY: The member for Bonney should know a lot of things and I am here to tell him that this government is doing outstanding things to assist the people of this great state. Let us talk about Jann Stuckey for a minute because Jann has made a wonderful contribution. I want to remind everybody of the tears when she was leaving this place. Everyone on that side said she was a big asset and it was a huge loss. Where would she get words like 'whingeing', 'weary', 'policy vacant'?

Ms Bates: We are all such good friends of hers.

Mr HEALY: Yes, I can tell. This morning the member for Clayfield said if you want a friend in politics on your side get a dog. What I find interesting is that your leader spoke about letting doctors and nurses make decisions and data sharing. There was no policy. There was not a mention about finance in any way, shape or form. He was just speaking very broadly with no details. This is what you do when you do not know what you are doing. We are also delivering on the pharmacy scope of practice trial which will help Queenslanders access a range of common medications like the contraceptive pill and UTI treatment through community pharmacists. That is working out well. We are making health care more accessible. There are significant challenges out there and we do not deny that. Every jurisdiction in the country is well and truly aware of it. We have policies and we have outstanding outcomes. We have legislated termination of pregnancy and voluntary assisted dying to give Queenslanders the choice they deserve. We have expanded the nurse navigator program and made the positions permanent to meet local HHS needs. This is what you do: you deliver for people; you do not stand in a room and bark at people. The success we have is out there, not in here with you.