




Speech By  
**Christopher Whiting**

**MEMBER FOR BANCROFT**

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**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE  
AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; STATE FINANCIAL  
INSTRUCTIONS AND METWAY MERGER AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (4.32 pm): I rise to commend this budget to the House. It shows that the Miles government is doing the things that matter for Queensland, even if they are hard or complex. The LNP, by contrast, do not have the courage to do the things that matter for Queensland because they are complex and hard to do. When things get difficult, the LNP run away or curl up. We saw that last night when we were debating a simple motion about climate change. They simply did not turn up. They ran away or hid in the toilet. They were so scared. They wanted to be such a small target that they shrunk and shrunk and then literally disappeared. They turned to nothing. That showed what kind of government they would be.

The policy announcements they have made today have shown that they do not have the courage or the mental fortitude to govern Queensland. They are so scared that they barely go beyond what Labor is already doing—shared equity schemes, a catalyst fund for infrastructure or stamp duty concessions.

There is one thing that is different about the LNP—that is, they remain scared of public servants. The LNP always believe that our hardworking public servants are the problem. They think public sector employees are standing in the way, and that is why they sacked 14,000 of them last time.

**Mr Hart:** He didn't sack anybody.

**Mr WHITING:** Can I please take that interjection? Alternate realities. There is nothing unusual about the LNP ruling from a position of fear, because that is how they have been operating as an opposition—enlarging and unlocking the fears of Queenslanders, using the personal tragedy of Queenslanders as their way of gaining attention. I point out that I have not heard one of them yet mention domestic and family violence or gendered violence—not once—which is a disgrace.

Do members know another basic difference between Labor and the LNP? I have seen the Premier and cabinet ministers sitting down and talking with victims of crime. We say to them, 'How can we help you?' The LNP say to victims of crime, 'How can you help us? How can you help us build up fear and political advantage?' That sums up the difference between the Miles government and the LNP: courage versus fear. We have the courage to do the things that matter for Queensland, even though they are hard and complex. The LNP, on the other hand, are dominated by fear—the fear of public servants. They use fear for political advantage. They are so scared of taking a position that they run away and hide. Most of all, they fear another four years in the political wilderness. I commend this budget to the House.