




Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**

**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 April 2024

**AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT  
BILL**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (5.40 pm): I think the member for Callide was misleading the House. He certainly does not share my DNA and I will be writing to the Speaker about this! It is outrageous. I will not have the farmers' friend besmirched in such a horrific way as has just occurred. What we have seen tonight is the member for Callide has demonstrated that not only is the minister the farmers' friend; he is also the fishers' friend. He may not be much of an angler, he may not pull many fish out of the sea, but he is truly the fishermen's friend because he leaves all the fish in the sea for the other fishermen to catch.

I was very slow to become a dog owner or, shall I say, a steward of a dog because as anybody who owns a dog knows, you do not own the dog; they own you. In the few years we have had a dog I have always found it to be of great friendship and great comfort. My daughters keep telling me that I am a classic example of the fellow who should go on that Facebook page 'dads who say they don't want dogs but end up becoming their best friends'. There are many photos of me sleeping and the dog curled up on my chest.

**Mrs Frecklington:** What sort of dog?

**Mr KELLY:** It is a little dog called Sage. Let me give a shout-out to Sage. I say to the member for Nanango that I should be walking Sage right now. Not only are dogs a source of great comfort, they can also be a source of great conflict. While Sage brings me many happy memories, as did our previous dog, Tinny, one of my earliest memories in life is walking with my older brother and sister near Padua primary school in the electorate of Stafford and I was attacked by a dog. It has stuck with me to this day; I can remember that day quite clearly. I have certainly got over that and I do not share a deep distrust of dogs, but I know they can be quite dangerous. In my community where a lot of people have dogs and we have high-density living, dogs can certainly be a source of great conflict. It is always quite worrying when we go out and about and we see a dog running around that is not restrained and there is no owner nearby. Unfortunately, we have seen some attacks in our community over the years.

I am proud to be part of a government that is certainly prioritising community safety, and this is an important part of that. The things that this bill does to standardise the rules across the state for local governments around managing dangerous dogs are certainly to be welcomed. It means people cannot feign ignorance when they move from one part of Queensland to another; they can understand the rules of the game no matter where they go. I think it is good we have moved to prohibiting those dangerous dogs. I think that is an extremely good step forward.

I want to come back to the member for Callide's contribution because I think to besmirch the farmers' friend in the way he has ignores some of those really important things we have done as a government. The support for Beef Week has become legendary. The support for Beef Week each year—

**Mrs Frecklington:** Relevance, Mr Deputy Speaker.

**Mr KELLY:** I say to the member for Nanango that it is relevant because I am responding to contributions made by a previous speaker, but I will let the Deputy Speaker be the judge of relevance.

There is also the \$60 million worth of biofencing that was put into this year's budget for biosecurity. I know about this from my time as the chair of the Agriculture and Environment Committee. I was strolling down the street in Barcaldine with a local grazier whose family had been in the district for a significant amount of time and he was singing the praises of cluster fencing to me and what it had done for the sheep industry. He was saying that realistically only Labor could have delivered cluster fencing because those on that side of the House are so caught up in rural politics they could never have delivered something like that. With those few words I commend the bill to the House.