




Speech By
Julianne Gilbert

MEMBER FOR MACKAY

Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2024

**ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL;
WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mrs GILBERT** (Mackay—ALP) (12.28 pm): Before I start talking about the bill, I would like to remind the member for Hinchinbrook why it is so important to have unions when we are talking about gig workers. There is strength in collectiveness of workers when looking after their rights and making sure that workers are protected. He needs to remember that every time he votes against something to do with unions.

I am really pleased that the Miles government has a strong history of putting worker safety front and centre. Since we came to government in 2015, we have worked hard to ensure there are modern and robust frameworks for employers and workers to navigate to ensure everyone is safe on their worksite. Those opposite have a long history of voting against the industrial relations bills we have brought before this House. Those include the labour hire laws that the member for Hinchinbrook was talking about, paid domestic and family violence leave, industrial protections for workers subject to sexual harassment and sex-based and gender-based harassment, birth related and parental leave, and portable long service leave. They also voted against wage theft and public holidays for Easter and Christmas Eve after 6 pm. It is important that we have strong industrial laws.

I thank our firefighters. It was great to see our rural firefighters out the front of Parliament House this morning. I thank them for the work they do and I thank their strong union for looking after them. It is important when we talk about workers compensation that in this bill workers compensation has been extended to further cover our firefighters.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Lui): Member, I ask you to resume your seat. Under the provisions of the business program agreed to by the House, the time limit for this stage of the bills has expired. I call the minister to reply to the second reading of the debate.