




Speech By
Hon. Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 16 April 2024

**HOUSING AVAILABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY (PLANNING AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; BUILDING INDUSTRY FAIRNESS
(SECURITY OF PAYMENT) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Hon. LR McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (4.33 pm): I rise to speak in support of these important laws—new laws from the new Miles Labor government which is committed to delivering for Queenslanders today, tomorrow and well into the future. Queensland is in the biggest decade of infrastructure delivery in our history. It is Queensland’s Big Build and it is all go. We are getting to work right across our great state to build more available and affordable housing to help ensure that every Queenslander has a safe, secure and affordable place to call home.

It has never been a more important time to put considered, evidence-based reform to the issues that are addressed in these bills, because keeping up with housing demand is a major challenge. We do not just need more housing; we need different styles and types of housing to suit the different needs in our community given the changes in our households, lifestyles, communities and indeed our climate, and we need this quickly. The Miles Labor government’s Homes for Queenslanders plan outlines an orchestrated approach to fast-track one million new homes by 2046, including 53½ thousand new social homes. This bill further delivers on those commitments under pillar 1 to simplify and expedite the supply of housing. Through these bills the Miles government is taking decisive action, aligning our Homes for Queenslanders plan and the South East Queensland Regional Plan with legislative reforms in these bills to help deliver homes faster.

It goes without saying that a big build of housing needs a big battalion of Queensland workers, and right now the Miles Labor government is providing free TAFE for Queenslanders who want to have a go at a great career on our Big Build. There are over 200 supported qualifications in construction and civil engineering, furnishing, manufacturing, utilities, information technology, mining, automotive and electrotechnology, just to name a few. Our Big Build is delivering new jobs that require highly skilled workers for long, rewarding careers. The Miles Labor government is backing Queenslanders with the qualifications for these good jobs, and that includes locals in Bundamba. Bundamba locals and locals right across Ipswich can enrol right now in courses like a Certificate III in Carpentry for free, and we need them to. We need more skilled workers than ever to help deliver local housing builds in our community.

I am advised that from 1 July 2015 to the end of last year 365 social and affordable homes have been delivered in the Ipswich region, 68 homes are currently in construction and a further 104 homes are under contract to be delivered, and there is more on the way. In fact, in Bundamba in just the last few years alone we have delivered three new social housing complexes in Redbank, a new social housing complex in Bellbird Park, a new social housing complex in Goodna which had residents move in just before Christmas last year, and another recently completed social housing complex in Redbank

Plains. Whilst we are getting on with our Big Build that is delivering more social homes, that Big Build comes with a big risk—that is, the LNP. The LNP wants to cut coal royalties, which will mean cuts to our Big Build and it will mean cuts—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Pause the clock. Member for Bundamba, I have been listening closely. Can you explain how this is relevant to the bill?

Mr McCALLUM: Because there will not be enough revenue to deliver Homes for Queenslanders, social homes—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Bundamba, I do not think revenue is in the bill. I draw you back to the bill please.

Mr McCALLUM: Indeed, Mr Deputy Speaker. To quote from the LNP wrong priorities document—Only an LNP Government can provide certainty—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Bundamba, I have just drawn you back to the bill. If you cannot come back to the bill, I will sit you down. I ask you to come back to the bill please.

Mr McCALLUM: Only a Labor government has a plan to deliver more houses for Queenslanders and get them into safe and secure housing as quickly as possible. That is what we are committed to. That is what we are delivering. I commend these bills to the House.