



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Furner**


**MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 September 2024

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Liberal National Party, Performance**

 **Hon. ML FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities) (2.15 pm): Yesterday, on this side of the House we reflected on the 12th anniversary of the LNP government sacking of public servants. Fourteen thousand public servant numbers were cut with a fillet knife. Since Labor came into power in 2015 we have been rebuilding the Public Service. Since 2015 this government has delivered more than 50,230 frontline workers.

On Sunday, at a candidate forum organised by the Ferny Grove and Upper Kedron residents group, people heard firsthand from the LNP candidate for Ferny Grove, who responded to questions from the floor. One resident said, 'In the past we lost a lot of nurses in hospitals and I am very concerned about that again.' No doubt that was a reference to the LNP gaining power in the forthcoming election. The LNP candidate responded, 'David has said there will be no forced redundancies.' But get this: he then said, 'You can choose to believe that or not.' Even the LNP candidate for Ferny Grove doubts the Leader of the Opposition and he also doubts the LNP. Clearly, the good people of Ferny Grove doubt the LNP as well as their candidate.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Members, the level of interjection is extremely high. I will start to warn people on both sides of the House.

**Mr Millar** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Gregory, that was extremely disorderly. Given that it is your last day, you are very close. You are warned.

**Mr FURNER:** I believe that your first speech in this House, given you act on the trust of those who elected you, forms the foundations of what you will do when you are elected. Bearing in mind that he was the then member for Mundingburra, when David Crisafulli delivered his first speech he stated—

**Mr POWELL:** Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Use correct titles, please. There is no point of order.

**Mr FURNER:** The Leader of the Opposition stated—

I have moved seven times since first coming to Townsville in the mid-1990s for university, but I have never once resided outside of the electorate. It is where we shop, it is where our kids go to school and it is where we wish to stay.

How long did that take? Two years later he knifed the then member for Broadwater in the preselection to run—

**Mr Bleijie** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The member for Kawana is warned under the standing orders.

**Mr FURNER:**—as the member for Broadwater. Now he wants to reside in Bulimba. We need to question some of the comments he has made in this House, which are recorded in *Hansard*.

**Mrs Frecklington** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The member for Nanango is warned under the standing orders.

**Mr FURNER:** Only last year in Cairns he said—

I rise to support the Path to Treaty Bill ... I believe in truth-telling ... We need to be up-front ... We must tell the truth ...  
Now is the time for the member for Broadwater—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. I have been trying not to interrupt the speaker on his feet but, member for Moggill, you can join the warning list now. Member for Kawana and member for Nanango, you are already on the warning list. You were interjecting so much that you did not hear me warning you.

**Mr FURNER:** When debating the Path to Treaty Bill he said, 'We must tell the truth'. It is time the member for Broadwater—or Bulimba or wherever he wants to reside—tells the truth about SET Solutions. In the final days of the 57th Parliament, tell the truth, member for Broadwater, about your dealings with SET Solutions.

**Mr Powell:** Through the chair!

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Manager of Opposition Business, I will be the judge of whether someone is speaking through the chair or not and I will manage the chamber. In that spirit, member for Callide, you are also warned under the standing orders.