




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Crisafulli LNP Government, Performance

 **Ms FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (2.34 pm): Doesn't it say a lot that the member for Clayfield, the now Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, had five minutes on his feet and could not explain why he has cut the Workforce Attraction Incentive Scheme which has brought hundreds and hundreds of doctors and nurses to regional Queensland, could not explain why they are sacking nurses from emergency departments and could not explain why they are cutting the services at nurse-led clinics that women and girls in Queensland told us they wanted. That tells you everything you need to know about the member for Clayfield. As of today, we are 45 days into this new government.

What a ride it has been! In 45 days we have seen this new government make leaps and bounds in tarnishing their own word, diminishing the rights of Queenslanders, gagging their own members—in fact, gagging the entire Queensland parliament—from discussing things in the future and banning the entire parliament from even discussing a woman's right to choose. You could just tell how much he wanted to gag the journalists in the election campaign. Day after day he could not answer the questions. He just wanted to gag the journalists. What did he do instead? Because he could not do that, he comes in here and, in an unprecedented move, gags every member of the Queensland parliament. This will make it really difficult for us to advance women's rights in this state when it comes to advances in health care and making sure that all health professionals continue to grow their scope of practice to provide what is lawful health care for women and girls in this state.

This new government made a vow to Queenslanders that there would be no cuts. Day after day the Premier said there would be no cuts. We were told this would not be a repeat of Campbell Newman's leadership. In just 45 days that has been completely rubbished by them. They have cut pill testing. We know this is something that will save lives and doctors have said we should keep. Of course we have the cut to the truth-telling inquiry. The Premier could not even pick up the phone to the chair of the inquiry to tell him it would be no longer, rushing and ramming legislation through in a day. They have also now cut the Workforce Attraction Incentive Scheme. They have cut the operating hours of nurse-led clinics. Who is surprised? They never supported those nurse-led clinics in the first place. It is absolutely shocking.

We know there is more to come. How do we know there are more cuts on the way? Because the Treasurer has spent the past week sounding the alarm about a potential credit rating downgrade. Let's be very clear: the threat of a downgrade was non-existent before the election. We know that because the ratings agencies put us on a stable outlook in September. What has changed since September? The election of the LNP government. Who remembers that train wreck of an interview? The now Treasurer only did one interview during the whole campaign. They had him hidden away. He finally made an appearance and did a shocker of a press conference where he could not explain how they are going to return back to surplus, lower debt and front all of their election promises. Now the ratings agencies have cottoned on and they have gone, 'This is bad news. How are you going to pay for all of this?' It is outrageous, but we know he is doing it because they are laying the groundwork for more cuts.

It has only been 45 days. I have already listed off all of the cuts they are making but there are definitely more to come. What has been really obvious in the past 45 days is that the now Premier, David Crisafulli, does not mean what he says. He said so many things during the election about how they would be a different kind of government. There would be no shadows of Campbell Newman. There would be no cuts. They would be responsible. They would listen to experts. It was going to be a utopia of a government. They have trashed it in 45 days.

If the actions of this Premier and the LNP government have shown us anything it is that they have flagrant disregard for anyone who might have a different opinion from theirs. This will absolutely send Queensland backwards. The Premier spent a lot of time in the campaign talking about values and talking about respect, and what we have seen in the past 45 days is the opposite. This is not Newman 2.0—

(Time expired)