




Speech By
Hon. Ann Leahy

MEMBER FOR WARREGO

Record of Proceedings, 20 May 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Emergency Management Levy

 **Hon. A LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (10.12 am): We all know the ALP is a party of higher taxes. Whether it is slugging families with new tax hikes or targeting small businesses with new levies—

Mr Power interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Logan.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! We will have order before we go any further. Member for Logan, you are sailing very close to the wind with that interjection.

Ms LEAHY: Whether it is slugging families with new tax hikes or targeting small businesses with new levies, the ALP's answer to every problem is to reach deeper into Queenslanders' pockets. Under Labor, Queenslanders do not get rewarded for their hard work; they get taxed for it. Those opposite were addicted to spending and are blind to the damage it did to Queensland's future.

In stark contrast, the Crisafulli government has implemented real measures to tackle Labor's cost-of-living crisis. We have actually axed two taxes in this parliament. Recently, the Queensland Fire Department provided more than 30,000 Queensland households with advice about changes to the emergency management levy. These were changes issued in direct response to Labor's actions while in government. Labor's cash grab was to jack up the emergency management levy, hitting Queenslanders with yet another hidden tax hike after the election—a hidden tax to fund new fire stations that they could not afford because they could not manage the budget.

They will dress it up as funding for services, but let's be clear: Labor was prepared to burn through the pockets of hardworking Queenslanders for services they could not deliver. The Crisafulli LNP government will not stand for it. This week the Crisafulli LNP government has put a stop to another Labor tax increase. Letters will be in the mailboxes of those more than 30,000 households this week, advising them that the Crisafulli LNP government does not and will not support Labor's hidden tax.

To be clear, the increases proposed under Labor will not occur. There will be no changes to those Queenslanders' emergency management levy increases beyond government indexation. The Crisafulli government is here to respect your money, not waste it.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I have just called for order.

Ms LEAHY: While Labor punishes Queensland families with backdoor tax hikes, the LNP stands for respect, responsibility and real relief for Queenslanders. Under the Crisafulli LNP government, every dollar will be respected and every decision will be made for the benefit of Queenslanders.