



Speech By
Hon. Ann Leahy

MEMBER FOR WARREGO

Record of Proceedings, 12 February 2026

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Weather Events, Recovery

 **Hon. A LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (2.15 pm): Yesterday I provided an update to the House about the recent summer of severe weather. I acknowledge the amazing work of our mayors, councillors and council CEOs in leading their communities through recovery. It is one of the great privileges in my role as the local government and disaster recovery minister to work closely with local governments and rebuild the relationship between them and the state government—a relationship that was trashed by the Labor Party during their decade of decline. But do not take my word for it. Here is what some of the mayors have had to say. Mayor John 'Tractor' Ferguson said—

I would like to thank the Premier and Minister Leahy for when we had floods out here, they turned up. They said they would be back and they'd help us, and that's exactly what they've done.

Mayor Barry Hughes from the Etheridge Shire said—

Absolutely. We look and we are very fortunate in relation to having a state government that at the moment has got the empathy for the bush. We are getting a lot of support from the Premier down in relation to this event, and can I just say I was happy to receive the phone call from the Premier last night and Minister Ann Leahy, and it has been absolutely fantastic. I have spoken to her at least four to five times over the last 24 hours.

Mayor Adam Belot said—

Thank you also to the local government minister and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers, Minister Ann Leahy, and Mirani MP, Glen Kelly, for picking up the phone every time I rang to discuss residents' concerns.

When you are present on the ground and listening and working with those communities, those communities notice. That is a lesson that the member for Pine Rivers would do well to learn. I might ask: where has the member for Pine Rivers been during this summer disaster period? She has not been in the impacted communities.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): Order, members!

Ms LEAHY: The only disaster zone that the member for Pine Rivers has been in lately—

Mr Power interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Logan, you are warned.

Ms LEAHY: The only disaster zone that the member for Pine Rivers has been in lately is the Labor Party caucus. The Crisafulli government will continue to work with our local governments. We will help them rebuild their communities and make them more resilient, and we will continue to roll out the betterment projects to make sure that when the next event comes along they are well prepared for those events.