



Speech By  
**Hon. Brent Mickelberg**


**MEMBER FOR BUDERIM**

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Record of Proceedings, 25 June 2025

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Public Transport, Fares**

 **Hon. BA MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (9.57 am): The Crisafulli government is delivering real, timely, measured and meaningful cost-of-living relief to Queenslanders. Yesterday the Treasurer outlined a number of real cost-of-living measures that will help Queenslanders now and into the future deal with cost-of-living pressures—measures that are funded into the future, not hollow election sugar hits with no ongoing funding, which was the approach taken by those opposite. Naturally, the one that I am most proud of is the implementation of the LNP's permanent 50-cent fares, a tremendous LNP initiative championed by none other than the now Premier himself.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Let's have some silence.

**Mr MICKELBERG:** They had 10 years to do it, but they could not. The LNP did it in our first budget. We said we would make it permanent, and that is what we delivered and funded in this budget. There is money in the budget for this coming financial year to support it. Then there is money in the budget for the next financial year and the one after that and the one after that.

It was in our first 100 days of coming to government that I directed my department to make 50-cent fares permanent, and that is when I found out that those opposite had left no ongoing funding to make it happen, despite all the rhetoric that we heard throughout the election and the large advertising campaign to back it up. It turns out that the former Labor government and the opposition leader's priorities were—surprise, surprise!—more about advertising how good he was than about locking in 50-cent fares permanently.

**Mr de BRENNI:** Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Yesterday you ruled and issued a statement in relation to the intent of ministerial statements. I submit to you that the minister just then has strayed away from your ruling. I ask you to bring him back to the intent of ministerial statements for the dignity of the House.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I made the ruling that they were to be specifically around policy and not personal attacks. They were to address policy. Member, you are on policy but you might just be straying a little. If you would stick to policy, that would be great.

**Mr MICKELBERG:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I want to talk about why this LNP initiative is so important for Queenslanders and why we acted so quickly to make 50-cent fares permanent. Based on our budget, we expect that in the coming financial year Queenslanders will save around \$322 million when compared to Labor's exorbitant previous fare structure. That is a real change that makes a real difference to the lives of Queenslanders. It is what now allows a lady in my community on the Sunshine Coast to do volunteer work when she could not previously because now it only costs her a dollar to get to and from the place where she volunteers. It allows young people in retail and hospitality

to pick up an extra shift, and it allows many Queenslanders to not have to worry about getting to and from work or education using our public transport system. This is also incredibly important because it helps take vehicles off our roads, reducing congestion and pressure on our road network during morning and afternoon peaks.

This is what a fresh start looks like. I am looking forward to working with the Premier, the Treasurer and our entire government to ensure that as many Queenslanders as possible continue to make use of this cost-of-living initiative long into the future.