




Speech By
Hon. Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

Record of Proceedings, 27 August 2025

MOTION

Chief Health Officer, Appointment

 **Hon. BA MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (6.26 pm): It is a pleasure to rise to address the motion and the amendment, and it is a pleasure to follow the member for Waterford. I thought that after her performance during question time and her protests, which were quite loud and vociferous, she might have led by example and repudiated the actions of the member for Cairns. She has clearly repudiated similar actions in the past. She had an opportunity. She made the point during question time that she did not have an opportunity in question time. Now she spent five minutes on her feet speaking about standards and, to quote the member for Waterford, 'a lack of leadership'.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order: relevance.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I cannot hear the member for Springwood's point of order.

Mr de BRENNI: The point of order is that the minister must be relevant to the motion or the amendment.

Mr SPEAKER: Yes, that is a fair point of order. Member for Buderim, you have a motion in front of you.

Mr MICKELBERG: I will rebut the contribution of the member for Waterford, who said that this was the biggest 'lack of leadership' and that we needed to 'lead by example'. Those were her words, not mine. Incidentally, I agree with them. There is a lack of leadership in this House tonight, and it comes from those opposite. The member for Cairns should be condemned for his actions—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr MICKELBERG:—and for those opposite to come in here and ignore them—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr MICKELBERG:—says everything Queenslanders need to know.

Mr de BRENNI: Sit down! Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Springwood, what is your point of order?

Mr de BRENNI: Apologies, Mr Speaker. My point of order is in relation to relevance. Just a moment ago you ruled on relevance and instructed the minister, and he intentionally ignored your ruling.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Moggill, do you have a point of order?

Dr ROWAN: My point of order was that the outburst by the Manager of Opposition Business was unbecoming.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Buderim, you have made your point on that issue. We are debating a motion. If you could bring yourself back to that, it would be appreciated.

Mr MICKELBERG: Thank you for your guidance, Mr Speaker. It begs the question of why they have come in here and sought to distract from their record on health and their standards of public behaviour. The simple fact is that Queenslanders are living with a decade of Labor failure. We had 10 years of Labor failure on health and the worst ambulance ramping in the country; that is what those opposite presided over. It begs the question of who has the most to lose from a conversation about Labor's record on health. Could it be the now opposition leader, a former minister for health? Could it be the now deputy opposition leader, a former minister for health? Could it be the next opposition leader, the member for Waterford, a former minister for health? They all presided over a decade of failure and it is Queenslanders who paid the price.

Whether it is ramping or the outpatient waitlist, the reality is that those opposite failed Queenslanders. I brought the plight of Darrell and Stephanie Massie from my electorate to the parliament in 2022. Stephanie had a fall at home and broke her hip and her femur. She sat ramped for five hours when she should have had emergency treatment immediately, given the nature of her injuries. Darrell, her partner, was a victim under two Labor failures in the health system. He too sat ramped for seven hours with a huge haematoma—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr MICKELBERG: I can hear those opposite interjecting. When I brought up the story of a victim of Labor's health crisis, the member for McConnel said I was coming in here and making things up. Mr Speaker, I can tell you that the people of Buderim and the people of Queensland know Labor's record when it comes to health. They know that those opposite want to hide from their record, which is why they come in here and move these motions which are full of baseless allegations; they are assertions without facts. Those opposite know that their record is shameful and they are ashamed of it, and they should be. Queenslanders passed judgement on that in October last year.

I want to contrast our approach with that of those opposite—people like the member for McConnel, who says we come in here and make stories up, or the member for Waterford, who failed to take responsibility. She promised she would bring ambulance ramping down to, I think, 28 per cent but she failed because it went up to 45.5 per cent under the member for Waterford.

Ms Bates: Worst in the nation.

Mr MICKELBERG: I take the interjection from the member for Mudgeeraba. She was the worst health minister that Queensland has seen, with the worst ambulance ramping in the nation. Contrast that with the approach taken by the now Minister for Health, the member for Clayfield. When confronted with questions today in relation to an individual by the name of Drune, he gave an empathetic response with a commitment to address the concerns. That tells Queenslanders everything they need to know about our government's focus on delivering. We have been in government for 10 months and we have delivered more than those opposite could with their decade of Labor failures. The people of Buderim know it and every Queenslanders passed judgement in October. Those opposite should listen to the voices of Queenslanders. That is why I will be supporting the amended motion. I call on all members of the House to reject Labor's scurrilous attacks and scare campaigns.

(Time expired)