




Speech By
Hon. Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

Record of Proceedings, 9 December 2025

MOTION

CFMEU, Administration

 **Hon. BA MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (11.44 am): The question here today is: how did those opposite vote when faced with the opportunity to stand up against the CFMEU and the CFMEU's backers? Who stayed in the room and who walked out? Queenslanders know well the price of the CFMEU—a \$55 million blowout on the Centenary Bridge because of the actions of the CFMEU under those opposite. I think I said in question time that Cross River Rail had gone to \$17 billion—I should have said \$19 billion—as a consequence of the CFMEU and the mismanagement of those opposite. Queenslanders are paying the price because of the CFMEU and the cosy deal between the former Labor government and CFMEU thugs, and they want to continue it.

Speaker after speaker has come in here on this debate and spoken about anything other than the CFMEU and their support for the CFMEU. The member for Waterford says they 'furiously support' this motion, yet they are going to try to amend the motion because they furiously support it. Queenslanders know that Labor sides with the CFMEU over Queenslanders. The party of the workers supposedly sides with CFMEU thugs, with links to organised crime, over keeping workers safe and job sites productive.

It is interesting to see who has not spoken on this motion. Interestingly, one chose to get kicked out so they did not have to vote on it. I wonder what union that particular member might be part of. Would it be the ETU? Who moved this motion? Where is the member for Bancroft? The former member of the CFMEU, a member of the ETU, is absent and will not be speaking on this motion. What about the member for Bundamba? Hello, mate. Welcome to the party! Not speaking on this motion, are we, mate? The ETU—got to keep your mates on side.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on the longstanding convention and rules of the parliament in terms of reflecting on a member's absence.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Thank you, member for Springwood. I hear your point order. Minister, that is a very important rule and convention. I would ask you to refrain from noting members' absence from the chamber and carry on.

Mr MICKELBERG: Indeed, thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I will continue with my list of ETU members who have chosen not to speak on this motion. The member for Kurwongbah: where is he on this motion? Silent. Those opposite try to walk both sides of the fence. They do not want to offend their union masters, but they do not want to look like they side with the CFMEU. Queenslanders know full well where the Labor Party stands when it comes to the CFMEU.

The question is: who stayed in the room and who left? Did the member for Waterford walk out? Did the member for Miller walk out? We know he did not. We saw a picture of him in there. What did the opposition leader do; did he stay or go? Did he stand up for Queenslanders or side with the CFMEU?

Queenslanders deserve a government that will work for them, not one that will side with their union mates—CFMEU thugs and bullies. This government, the Crisafulli government, will always choose Queenslanders over the CFMEU.