



Speech By
Bryson Head

MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

Record of Proceedings, 26 August 2025

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; PRIMARY
INDUSTRIED AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE, REPORT**

 **Mr HEAD** (Callide—LNP) (8.26 pm): It was fantastic to sit in on the estimates process this year. Certainly, there was a clear contrast with estimates processes that I have been a part of in prior years. It was the most transparent and genuine estimates process in the time that I have been in this House, which is fantastic. The Premier made a commitment that he would tidy up the process for the sake of Queenslanders and that is what we saw through genuine change, with the Speaker and Deputy Speaker doing a fantastic job of chairing the hearings and ministers being able to answer questions fulsomely.

I wish to comment on what the member for Gladstone was talking about. It is incredibly sad that the Labor Party are that angry with the community of Maryborough for booting out the former Labor member for Maryborough that they would rather scare the community into thinking that we are making changes to the important jobs there than actually work with them. Rather than work with the community of Maryborough and try to win them back, they treat them like mugs and run scare campaigns in that community. We now have a fantastic member for Maryborough who is fighting hard for his community. He will ensure that he protects the jobs of the Maryborough community.

I remember the first estimates hearings that I sat through at which we talked about coal royalties. We know that this is a government that works with industry. We made clear commitments as to how we will treat the mining sector in Queensland because of how valuable it is to our state. The former resources minister, Scott Stewart, was asked when he knew about that royalty regime. I was elected on 18 June and the progressive royalty tiers were announced on 21 June 2022. From memory, the then minister responded on 7 June, which is two weeks from when the royalty tier was introduced in Queensland. Even the minister at the time knew two weeks out when that tier was introduced. That shows how little the former government consulted and that hurt investment confidence in this state. There was no transparency, there was no consultation and, frankly, the treasurer of the time did not care. He wanted to take Queensland for everything that it had.

Those opposite seem to be confused as to why we cannot continue to spend like drunken sailors in Queensland. They are pulling different programs out of thin air that apparently we have cut. What I will say to those opposite is you cannot cut programs that were not funded in the first place. That is the unfortunate reality that the LNP government and our Treasurer, David Janetzki, inherited.

Those opposite should reflect on their decisions of the past. I will say they probably did in some instances because there were some areas that the minister would have liked to have been asked some questions on but they chose to avoid them. One of those areas in the estimates hearing was the fire ant program. They did not ask any questions of Minister Perrett about the fire ant program, and that shows they know they failed miserably at that program during their decade in government.

It was fantastic to hear on the day about the mackerel review to increase the catch limits for commercial and recreational fishers. About once a year I get a fishing rod in the water, and when I do get out I thoroughly enjoy fishing. I am looking forward to the outcome of that consultation process.

We have a fantastic resources minister who is working hard, who backs the mining industry, who is getting on with the job and who is getting things moving here in Queensland. Across the board he has spent a lot of time and effort trying to fix the Mount Isa problem that we inherited from those opposite.

There was a question asked by those opposite of the Minister for Regional and Rural Development about the Biloela maternity ward. I was shocked. This week marks three years since the maternity ward went on bypass because of the failures of those opposite. All of a sudden, now that they are in opposition they want to talk about a problem they created, and it is only because they are trying to set up some sort of political wedge. It is hard to wedge someone on a problem that was your own making. I say to the community of Biloela that we are working hard to restore maternity services. It is a commitment that we made and it is a commitment that we will deliver on.