




Speech By
Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

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**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE
AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (9.52 pm): I rise to address the cognate debate on the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2025, the Appropriation Bill 2025 and also the Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025. The 2025-26 state budget sets the foundation for the fresh start that the Liberal National Party promised for Queensland. It is a state budget that is built on a calm and methodical approach, with a solid foundation for Queensland's future. Above all else, it is a state budget that respects taxpayers' money and honours the commitments we made to all Queenslanders, including local residents of the electorate of Moggill.

We made a commitment to Queenslanders to get Queensland back on track, and this state budget does exactly that. The 2025-26 state budget is focused on four key areas: safety where you live, a better lifestyle through a stronger economy, health services when you need them and a plan for Queensland's future. This year's state budget delivers responsible and timely cost-of-living relief. Our measures are targeted and enduring. This state budget saves critical frontline services and protects jobs that otherwise would have been put at risk under Labor. It backs infrastructure that was in danger of being lost and delivers projects that will now be built for the future.

For local residents of the electorate of Moggill, this state budget delivers. After 10 years of the former Labor government's neglect, residents of the electorate of Moggill now have a state government which is investing into their future prosperity. This is a state budget that does not just talk about promises; it actually funds them. Every election commitment that was made for the electorate of Moggill at the 2024 state election is fully funded in this budget.

This state budget provides a record \$33.1 billion for health, delivering more ambulances and more access to free health care than ever before. There is a record \$21.9 billion allocation for education, helping students to catch up, keep up and stay in school, whilst delivering more teachers and safer classrooms. There is also a \$100 Back to School Boost for every Queensland primary school student, which is fantastic news for local families across all 11 schools in the electorate of Moggill. Importantly, this budget also provides \$37.5 million for free health checks for kids in kindy.

In addressing Labor's housing crisis, this budget delivers a nation-leading \$165 million Boost to Buy scheme to help first home buyers enter the market. There is over \$209 million to deliver new crisis accommodation, \$37 million to enhance police responses and \$25 million for a new electronic monitoring program targeting high-risk domestic violence offenders. The \$20 million Returning to Work package for Queensland women along with superannuation payments for the full 52 weeks of parental leave for public sector employees are also welcome. There is an allocation of \$560 million for early intervention and rehabilitation to help break the cycle of youth crime. I am also delighted to acknowledge that this state budget contains over \$117 million to restore and protect Queensland's natural environment, supporting local conservation and habitat restoration.

This is what responsible government looks like. This is what forward planning delivers. This is what Queenslanders deserve. After a decade of neglect by the former Labor state government, local residents of the electorate of Moggill have a state budget that delivers firmly for them. Quite literally, for years the former Labor state government would produce budget materials that failed to contain one reference or project for the western suburbs of Brisbane. We were quite literally left off Labor's map. In stark contrast, from Kenmore to Karana Downs and from Chapel Hill to Moggill-Bellbowrie, the Crisafulli LNP government's first state budget is backing our local residents, our families, our schools and our sporting, environmental and community organisations across the electorate of Moggill.

All of my local election commitments have been fully funded in this state budget, and that means real, practical benefits for the electorate of Moggill. From dedicated funding for local sporting clubs—like the Moggill Mustangs, the Kenmore Bears AFL club, the Moggill Football Club, Kenmore Districts Rugby, UQFC and others—to funding upgrades for all of our local pony clubs, delivering funding for vital infrastructure and equipment at our Mount Crosby Bowls Club as well as funding for our Brookfield Showground, this state budget is investing in the facilities and infrastructure that help bring our community together.

I am also delighted to say that our hardworking local volunteers and environmental groups have also received strong support from the Crisafulli LNP state government, with targeted funding to enhance catchment care, preserve green space and support the vital work of our local Girl Guides, Scouts and various service organisations.

This state budget is also providing support for our wonderful local schools and families, with funding in this state budget for a dedicated business case to progress a new local high school. We are also investing more in maintenance works across all our local schools and ensuring the delivery of specialist classrooms at Moggill State School as well as critical new building infrastructure at Kenmore State High School.

This is a budget that also delivers important community infrastructure and essential services for the electorate of Moggill. I am delighted that this budget funds our \$3 million commitment for a brand new community and neighbourhood centre in the electorate of Moggill, which will be a vital piece of infrastructure that will support residents and community groups across our region. In one of the most critical investments in essential infrastructure, we are replacing the aging Mount Crosby substation, with more than \$25 million committed to delivering a safe and modern energy supply for our community.

Importantly, this state budget also addresses long overdue enhancements to public and active transport and invests in vital road infrastructure to enhance safety and reduce congestion. This includes progressing a dedicated integrated road and public transport plan for the western suburbs of Brisbane, as well as our \$75 million commitment to upgrade the Kenmore roundabout and deliver pedestrian and safety upgrades at Our Lady of the Rosary School.

We are also delivering a new footpath connecting to the Moggill District Sports Park with \$1.1 million to enhance pedestrian access and safety for students, families and residents. I want to acknowledge the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, who has ensured that, after many years wasted by Labor, the Mount Crosby Road-Warrego Highway interchange upgrade is receiving the attention it deserves. These investments will ease congestion, enhance safety and ensure a better quality of life for residents in our community.

Before concluding my contribution, as Leader of the House in the Queensland parliament, I wish to address the Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and, specifically, amendments related to the Parliament of Queensland Act 2001. These amendments pertain to the estimates committee hearings and are designed to deliver accountability and transparency for Queenslanders. Under these amendments, the Speaker or Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly will preside as chairperson at estimates committee hearings. These reforms deliver on the Crisafulli LNP state government's election commitment to reform the estimates hearing processes and will enable a more consistent approach across all portfolio committees.

I also want to briefly acknowledge, with respect to the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2025, that a sum of \$146 million will be authorised for the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service for the financial year starting 1 July 2026. I wish to associate myself with the comments by the Treasurer and also add my appreciation and thanks to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, and the outstanding members of the Parliamentary Service who provide exemplary service and support to all members of the Queensland parliament.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge one of the members of the Queensland Press Gallery, Savannah Meacham from the Australian Associated Press, AAP, who finishes this week. Since January 2024, Savannah has covered state parliament with diligence and professionalism, and she is widely respected within the Queensland Press Gallery for her studious and hardworking approach. I understand that her favourite moment on the rounds was covering the 2024 state election. Savannah

now leaves AAP to move to the United Kingdom to be with her partner, with plans to travel and continue her journalism career in England. On behalf of the Queensland government, we wish Savannah the very best for the future.

In concluding my contribution, and returning to the substance of the Appropriation Bill 2025, I again want to underscore how residents of the electorate of Moggill deserve a government that respects them, that listens to them and that delivers for them. I am proud to say that through the Crisafulli LNP state government, and with the commitment and vision in this state budget, that is exactly what they now have. The Crisafulli LNP state government's budget is about supporting our families, backing our small businesses, keeping our communities safe, and securing a strong future of our children and our state of Queensland. The 2025 state budget sets the foundations for the fresh start the Liberal National Party promised to Queenslanders and, for residents of the electorate Moggill, that fresh start is now a reality. I commend the bills to the House.