



Speech By  
**Christopher Whiting**


**MEMBER FOR BANCROFT**

---

Record of Proceedings, 12 June 2025

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Cost of Living, Relief**

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (2.25 pm): I want to address some of the things that we have just heard from the member for Moggill, who talked about how the LNP is delivering real cost-of-living relief. I would contest that. It is just not so. Soon we will see rego go up 24 per cent for every working Queenslanders. They will get rid of the electricity rebate, which has been a hugely beneficial and welcomed cost-of-living relief measure that was delivered by the former government. We have heard that they are going to get rid of the FairPlay vouchers that help ordinary kids get into sport. I spoke to a Rugby League club representative in my area who said that 70 per cent of their junior players rely on those vouchers to play Rugby League. If we are serious about getting kids off the streets and keeping them in sport, we need to keep those vouchers. That is absolutely crucial.

The LNP have said that the cost-of-living relief measures that we delivered were a sugar hit that we could not afford. I say that that is really disrespectful to working people in Queensland who need that structural relief to help them out in a time of increased cost-of-living pressures. People are facing huge cost-of-living pressures with rent being what it is. That structural change supported the working people of Queensland who generate the wealth of this state. They need real support. If you believe in the working people of Queensland then you would deliver those cost-of-living relief measures. That is absolutely crucial.

I want to briefly touch on the fact that homelessness and the threat of homelessness has got worse during the last six months under the LNP. The number of people experiencing homelessness or the threat of homelessness is increasing. I see more people in my electorate office now than I did six months ago suffering from this. Crucially, we now have cases that can be attributed to what the LNP has been doing. In recent times, the minister has caused confusion and angst because of the differing messages about the income threshold. Will there be a review of the threshold or will they stick with the old one? All the residents hear is that they may be losing their homes. That is what they hear. They heard that over 10 years ago under the LNP and now they are hearing it again.

In my area, one mother and DV survivor has lived in her home for 20 years. She works in a lower level Public Service job. Her daughter now has an entry level job there. She thinks she could be ineligible. She is really upset, she cannot sleep properly and she cannot go to work. She fears she could be forced into the private market—

*(Time expired)*