



Speech By  
**Hon. David Crisafulli**  
**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 February 2025

**MOTION**

**North Queensland, Weather Events**



**Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.45 am): I move—

That this House:

1. acknowledges the devastation caused in North Queensland by heavy rainfall and flooding earlier this month;
2. pays respect to those who lost their lives as a result of heavy rainfall and flooding earlier this month, and extends its condolences and deepest sympathy to their families and loved ones;
3. extends support to those who have lost their homes, property and personal possessions;
4. places on record its thanks for the tireless efforts of all emergency service personnel, frontline responders, local, state and federal agencies, community members and volunteers, and members of the Australian Defence Force who came together to support North Queenslanders and continue to support them through the recovery phase; and
5. commits to working with all affected communities to ensure that Queensland recovers from this disaster, with a focus on increasing resilience for future events.

The effects of the flood in North and Far North Queensland will be felt for many years to come. The memories, the loss, the devastation and the heartache is something that all in this House will carry heavy in our hearts, as will those brave communities. On this motion, it is appropriate we pause today and reflect on the triumph in the face of tragedy. To every worker, many of whom came from interstate to help North Queenslanders in their hour of need, we say thank you: the SES, many of whom have been impacted themselves, the fireies, the police, the ambos and the state government agencies. We saw Queensland Rail workers ferrying people over a crossing of a bridge that had been damaged to ensure people could reconnect. We have seen workers there to pick up the pieces. We have seen local members from across the political divide who have been proud servants of their communities. I want to acknowledge that today. Above all, we have seen the North Queensland spirit on display: neighbours helping neighbours, strangers helping strangers, a triumph in the face of tragedy.

I talk in the motion about the need to increase resilience. Some good must come from this heartache, and that good must be a North Queensland that is more resilient to handle the next challenge Mother Nature throws at it. We must build resilience. We must ensure people can not only pick up the pieces but also be in a better position next time to handle it. We must ensure these communities know they matter and that we will be there to see it through. Above all, long after the glare of the cameras disappear, we must continue to go there and enable this proud region to pick up the pieces from the tragedy that has unfolded.