



Speech By
Jennifer Howard

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH

Record of Proceedings, 16 October 2025

EDUCATION (GENERAL PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2025

 **Ms HOWARD** (Ipswich—ALP) (8.18 pm): I rise to speak on this bill. The Labor opposition will always back in our teachers. We acknowledge the hard work they do every day to educate and support our children. We also recognise that their jobs have become increasingly more challenging. I know that because, like all members in this House, we speak to all of our teachers and principals in our electorates. We know that they are struggling with increasing occupational violence, red tape and work claims. The LNP government promised to fix these problems, but none of them have been addressed in this bill.

Teachers are crying out for more support managing their classrooms. Many of their students have different learning and behavioural needs that require extra classroom support, but there is nothing in this bill that provides teachers with that type of support. In August this year, more than 50,000 Queensland teachers went on strike for the first time in 16 years to demand more support from this government. Teachers deserve better pay and working conditions for the work they do, but the education minister is not listening. He was the first education minister in 16 years to have strike action taken against him. That should be a wake-up call for him. Instead, the minister has tabled a bill that copies Labor's lapsed bill from last year and introduces changes that fail to address the real concerns teachers have raised with this government.

David Crisafulli said he would sack ministers if they did not achieve their KPIs. This bill achieves none of the education minister's KPIs, and it is not just the opposition pointing this out. The Department of Education also admitted during the committee process that this bill does not contain any new measures that will achieve the education minister's KPIs. One of the minister's KPIs included a promised 25 per cent reduction in red tape for teachers.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr O'Shea): Under the provisions of the order agreed to by the House, I call the Minister for Education to reply to the second reading debate.