



Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**


**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 April 2025

**MOTION**

**Crisafulli LNP Government, Health System**

 **Mr JKELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (5.53 pm): I have not heard someone say they were going to do so much since I listened to the Greens speaking at the polling booth, 'I'm going to do this. I'm going to do that. I'm going to do this, that and the other thing. It's all going to be done.'

The health minister's speech pricked my conscience. I am a very conscientious fellow, so it is pretty easy to prick my conscience. I thought I would start my contribution with an apology. I would like to apologise to the people of Queensland. I was here in 2015 as part of a new government—lots of people here were—and excited. I would like to apologise because we did not do a health infrastructure review in 2015. I am not one to blame-shift, but the reality is we did have a very good reason for not doing a health infrastructure review—but we should still apologise—because there was nothing to review. Not a single thing had been built. We could have done a 1 William Street review.

**Mr Minnikin** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Chatsworth.

**Mr JKELLY:** I will tell honourable members what else we did not review but we probably should have. It was nursing numbers. The infrastructure review would have been pretty quick. Let's face it: the health infrastructure review would have taken no time. However, to find the few nurses left in Queensland Health after those folks opposite cut, slashed and burnt them out of the health system would have taken us a long time.

I stand here and I will have this to the day I die as something I am very proud of: to be the only nurse in this parliament who voted for safe nurse- and midwife-to-patient ratios. As such, I am very excited to support item No. 8 of the motion that thanks the Premier for breaking the promise to vote to support the only nurse who did not vote for safe nurse-to-patient ratios. That would be the member for Mudgeeraba, and I notice she is not on the speaking list tonight.

Points 2, 3, 4 and 5 deal with broken promises, and I do not think any of us should be surprised or upset about broken promises from the Premier. This is a chap who came in here and voted to support the Path to Treaty process. I say to the member for Barron River that he did not promise—he did not make a promise—he did not say what he was going to do. He did something good—really good—he voted for the Path to Treaty but, of course, he did not actually do it when he got in here; he got rid of it. So we should not be surprised with broken promises because even when you—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Greenslopes, I am not finding that in amongst the 10 points. I will bring you back to the motion. Come back to health.

**Mr JKELLY:** Let's get to some other broken promises. Mr Speaker, thank you for your guidance. They also promised that there would be no new stadiums, yet now there is to be a new stadium. The reality is when we look at the rest of this motion, it goes to those cuts, and haven't we seen plenty of those and haven't some of them been very cruel? On the very day I stood outside the pill-testing clinic in Newstead with the local member and we called out this government for shutting down the pill-testing site against all advice, they tested a pill that would have killed the person who bought it. How many people out in the community are still exposed to these sorts of risks? They are the sorts of cuts that this motion is dealing with.

What about the cuts to the hours of the nurse-led clinics? That is certainly affecting the member for Gladstone's electorate. What about the cuts to the regional workforce attraction fund? Honestly, how are they going to fix the obstetrics waiting times or the lists or everything they promised if they are not able to attract people into these regional areas?

What about the incredibly cruel cuts to the gender clinics? There was no reason to do that. There were no safety issues put forward. There was a constituent of mine sitting in that clinic waiting for an appointment and they had been waiting for months, and they were cut on the very day that this government made that decision. It was a very cruel cut. There are plenty more examples I could be talking about. I support our motion.