




Speech By
Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

Record of Proceedings, 20 November 2025

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Crisafulli LNP Government, Performance

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algeester—ALP) (2.18 pm): A year ago next week, the Crisafulli LNP government used their very first parliamentary sitting day to abuse the processes of this place and rush through legislation to repeal the Path to Treaty Act. There was no consultation, no opportunity for a committee to interrogate the matter and make recommendations and no regard for the Queenslanders the legislation actually impacted. There was none of the respect and decency promised by the Premier, only a clear indication that the far right of his party was now in charge and that First Nations people should prepare for a retrograde policy shift, which is exactly what we have seen.

Over the past year, the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, the member for Maroochydore, has abandoned the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry, essentially attempting to erase Queensland's true history and silence the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders; backed away from important projects like the First Nations cultural centres in Brisbane and Cairns; sat by while key identified positions in government departments, including in Health, were downgraded or absorbed into the mainstream; thumbed her nose at key elements of the Closing the Gap agreement; and scrapped key policies designed to create equitable outcomes for First Nations Queenslanders. This is not to mention that she has somehow managed to allocate \$37 million of her Closing the Gap Priorities Fund without any criteria or guidelines, announce a home ownership scheme almost a year ago that I understand still has not helped a single person into their own home and, as was revealed at estimates this year, covered up the number of FTEs who actually work in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships area of her own department which, according to her DG, is less than half the 412 she tried to pass off as such in this year's budget.

Last night the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships stood in a room full of First Nations business owners to proudly announce that the Queensland Indigenous Procurement Policy was no longer in existence and that Indigenous procurement was now 'embedded' in the mainstream policy.

Ms SIMPSON: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker. Not only is the member misleading the House but her words are offensive and untrue. I ask that they be withdrawn.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): Minister, there is a process that you can go through for the first part. Member, the minister has found those words offensive. I ask you to withdraw.

Ms ENOCH: I withdraw. Make no mistake, under the LNP and this minister, Queensland has entered a modern era of assimilation policy where under the guise of creating parity Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are being embedded or, as the 1937 native welfare conference described it, 'absorbed' into the mainstream. It is nothing more than an attempt to erase culture and remove First Nations customs, influences and belief systems from government policy and service delivery, implying, just as it had been done in 1937, that there is nothing of value in First Nations culture.

Despite the attempts of the LNP and the Minister, allegedly, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships to erase us, we are still here. We always were and we will always be.