




Speech By  
**Robbie Katter**

**MEMBER FOR TRAEGER**

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Record of Proceedings, 28 October 2025

**MOTION**

 **Mr KATTER** (Traeger—KAP) (3.43 pm): We have obviously been caught off guard here by a deliberate attempt by the government to shut down or at least contain or curtail debate on a very important issue. Another crocodile attack was identified on the weekend up at Cape Tribulation, so I guess that would speak to the urgency of trying to deal with something like this. We all know this is being done because, rather than trying to fix problems in this place, the government have spent the last two sittings trash-talking our candidate in Hinchinbrook. They are not talking about the things we should be talking about, like how we are going to fix things in this state.

**Mr Bleijie:** He's the Labor candidate.

**Mr KATTER:** I take the interjection from the government. The Labor candidate, the one who was approached by the LNP—I will keep saying that—

**Government members** interjected.

**Mr KATTER:** I do not want to keep talking about this stuff.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Traeger, I will just remind you that you are talking to the motion as moved.

**Mr KATTER:** I appreciate that. Mr Speaker, I do not want to talk about that stuff; I just want to talk about our policies. Whether you agree with them or not is fine, but what drives me insane is when I have to go up to North Queensland and people go, 'Oh, it's good we got rid of Labor because now we'll get some action on crocodiles,' and nothing changes so here we are. That is why this is being delayed, because nothing is going to change. Then I get called out and people say, 'Hang on, nothing changed. You said we had to get rid of Labor.' That is why we are here. We are not here to fix things. We are not here for the betterment of the public or the betterment of debate. We are here to hide things and what we really stand for. Someone said something about the values of the person who is running for the LNP in Hinchinbrook. Well, let's see his values. Ask him what he thinks about this. In a conversation up at the Bohle tavern or the Bushland Beach Tavern, ask him what he thinks about crocodiles, because this is an issue—

**Dr ROWAN:** Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. My point of order relates to relevance to the motion that is currently being debated.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Traeger, once again you are talking about the bill and not the motion that has been moved.

**Mr KATTER:** I understand. It is quite clear why they are doing this. Please, let's at least have the decency to acknowledge why this is happening. There is a by-election happening in Hinchinbrook and we have this debate, so we have a gag order now. We cannot talk about uncomfortable things and positions the Katter's Australian Party have. We are not going to expose anything we discuss about crocodiles. We have lowered the bar on the crocodile stuff. We have tried to make it moderate policy to

get some buy-in to try and get political assent on this. We are not trying to make a political statement with this. We need it debated in this period so people can make an informed judgement. Let's not forget that Hinchinbrook is a ground zero area—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Traeger, I have to bring you back to the motion we are debating.

**Mr KATTER:** I thought I was speaking within the motion, Mr Speaker, because I am trying to speak about the importance of bringing this debate forward and the urgency that it requires. You cannot ignore the fact that there is a by-election and that that is what is driving this. Issues need to be put in front of the people of Queensland so they can make informed choices about whom they vote for. That is what this parliament exists for. That is the whole point of the process.

I am happy to wear it if people do not like our pro-life stance or our crocodile stance. We are happy to wear that, but let's just call it for what it is and let's all know where we all stand on this. That is how the political system should work. You can throw names and labels at things if you want, but let's talk about policy and solutions. To do that we need to debate things and not play games in the parliament so we can hide it and suppress it. That is exactly what has happened here. It is a very unfortunate position for the government.

There is an integrity issue here for the government. They do not need to win this seat to keep government. They are compromising their integrity by playing around with the timing of these bills, including it with something else. It is political chicanery that does not belong here. The public is yearning for some integrity in this place and for people to just call it how they see it. They might accept it if you say you do not support this—they might like it; it might make you popular—but just say what you mean and be honest with the people of Queensland. Don't play these games to try to hide your true position. Let us at least be a voice for those people who want urgent action on this and to see this stuff come forward. All those people who do not form the masses out here and who oppose this stuff deserve a voice. There are people up there who want action on crocodiles and the like and they would love to see this debated.

We have waited a long time. The member for Hill has spent a lot of time preparing for this and trying to build momentum so that it is showcased in the media and people can make an informed choice, but he has had the rug ripped out from under him. This is very disappointing to see. The LNP is still going to be the government after this debate and after this by-election so let's us all just play fair and try to do our job here for the people of Queensland.