



Speech By
Rob Molhoek

MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT


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APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE, REPORT

Health, Environment and Innovation Committee, Report

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Whiting): The question is—

That the report of the Health, Environment and Innovation Committee be adopted.

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (4.36 pm): I rise to make a short contribution in respect of the budget estimates process on the portfolio areas that we reviewed with the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, and the Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation. One could be forgiven for pondering if perhaps those on the non-government side of the House are struggling with a severe case of relevance deprivation, because the statement of reservation that is attached to the budget estimates report has 14 pages of press cuttings and pictures of Labor members of the House talking about all the blows they took during the budget process. What a joke that is: the abject hypocrisy of some of the commentary.

We see a former government which had 10 years to fix many of these issues that we have seen within our health system and 10 years to deal with the environmental issues and the development of a decent tourism strategy. In fact, I only have to cast my mind back four or five months to when we were required to wrap up a report in the health and environment committee to do with a review that was supposed to have happened around environmental tourism and endangered species. What did that report talk about? It talked about delays and it talked about a strategy that was supposed to have been developed but had not been developed.

Everywhere we look, we can see the trail of despair and destruction left by the previous government where they just simply failed to deliver. Let's contrast that with the new Crisafulli government, which in just 10 months have been delivering time and time again on key election promises and are sorting out the mess and the trail of destruction and despair left by the previous government. We have spent 10 months scrambling to try to pull the figures together and find the money to deliver projects that were promised but unfunded. Then there are the games they played in the statement of reservation. There are some wonderful stories about, 'Look at us. We got them.' No, they did not. All they did was highlight how puerile they have been and how ineffective they have been over the past 10 years.

What did we do? The Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation was able to talk about our new tourism strategy and some of the other plans that we have around environmental tourism. He was able to answer questions about things like the Wangetti Trail up in Cairns and what a disaster that has been. A project that should have cost \$20 million has blown out to \$40 million and I think they have only built about 30 per cent of the trail.

What did we hear from others with respect to the health minister? We heard Labor members time and time again attacking the health minister, but not having the courage to ask him any questions.

Where were most of the questions directed? To the director-general. What did they spend most of their time doing? Challenging and questioning the director-general about his role, but not prepared to face the fact that he was there trying to deal with the despair and the destructive practices of the previous government in setting budgets for projects that were unfunded and promising to deliver things where there was no money to achieve. All I can say in my very short five minutes is I am so glad that we have been able to change the government in Queensland and deliver a government that will get on with the job of delivering for Queenslanders.

We heard from the health minister as he spoke about the Hospital Rescue Plan and the fact that we now have a clear plan for more hospital beds—

Mr Kempton: A fresh start.

Mr MOLHOEK: Absolutely. I take that interjection from the member for Cook—a serious, fresh start for Queensland, a government that is committed to delivering and which, in just 10 months, has been focused more on delivery than the previous Labor government who presided over 10 years of despair.