



Speech By
Hon. Samuel O'Connor

MEMBER FOR BONNEY

Record of Proceedings, 9 December 2025

MOTION

CFMEU, Administration

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (11.25 am): What the opposition leader, 'Mr Eight Per Cent', is saying is that the Labor Party will do one thing behind the closed doors of their conference, but another thing when Queenslanders are watching. If this motion is so simple, so administrative, like the opposition leader is saying, then why was there a walk out? Why did the AWU and their members walk out last weekend if it was just administrative as the opposition leader is claiming? Last weekend Labor delegates put their support for the CFMEU on the sticky paper. The ALP state conference formally called on the party to repeal the very legislation that keeps the CFMEU in administration in Queensland. Once again they called to hand back the keys to a militant, misogynistic union that is currently the subject of an inquiry into some horrific allegations about behaviour on Queensland worksites.

We heard from the Deputy Premier about at least one of the delegates who did not walk out of the room, but who else did not walk out of the room? Was the member for Springwood still in the room to vote on that motion? Was the member for Gaven still there? Was the shadow minister, the member for Jordan—I think a member of the AWU—in the room to vote on that motion? They are so desperate to get their CFMEU mates back in charge that the motion even called on their federal MPs and senators to go to Canberra and tear up the Commonwealth safeguards as soon as the CFMEU is out of administration nationally.

Today we have a choice. On this side of the House we have a government that is standing with workers, with Queensland taxpayers, with small businesses who just want safe job sites and who want projects delivered on time and on budget. Will Labor continue to stand with a militant union that has treated Queensland's construction industry like its own personal fiefdom? We know exactly how far Labor was prepared to go for the CFMEU when they were last in government. They were told directly, repeatedly, for many years that BPICs would jack up costs, but they put them in place anyway. They were warned that they would destabilise and delay major projects. They did it anyway. They knew that their mates in the CFMEU had created bullying, misogynistic and mob-like worksites, but they did it anyway. Reports from the inquiry and in the *Courier-Mail* today show again that the CFMEU ran procurement in Queensland. This parliament should send a very different message to that of the Labor Party conference: we will stand with Queensland workers and Queensland taxpayers, not with the militant, misogynistic CFMEU.