



Speech By  
**Hon. Tim Nicholls**


**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 September 2025

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Ambulance Service, Enterprise Bargaining Agreement**

 **Hon. TJ NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (11.09 am): After a decade of decline under Labor, the Crisafulli LNP government is delivering a fresh start for Queensland. I am pleased to advise the House that the Crisafulli government has now reached in-principle agreement this week with the United Workers Union for a new certified agreement for our Queensland Ambulance Service frontline staff—our much loved hardworking ambulance staff and paramedics.

The Queensland Ambulance Service's 6,200 operational employees represent the very best of our public health system—from our paramedics, the face of the QAS, responding to emergencies to our patient transport officers, who provide a safe journey for patients through the health system, to our emergency medical dispatchers being the first point of contact through the triple-0 call centre. Across all corners of the state of Queensland, our ambulance staff care for Queenslanders when they need it most with skill, dedication and resilience.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr NICHOLLS:** They do not like it, do they? The unions love us.

**Mr ACTING SPEAKER:** Minister, would you direct your comments through the chair, please.

**Mr NICHOLLS:** Indeed. It sounds like the trainee advocacy officer still has their training wheels on over there, I have to say. The in-principle agreement with the United Workers Union will deliver for Queensland ambulance frontline staff a guaranteed eight per cent increase to wages and allowances over three years, with additional wage increases triggered via a CPI uplift if it becomes apparent that that is necessary.

It also delivers for regional and remote Queensland, with initiatives to attract, retain and recognise paramedics and operational employees across the state. We have introduced things like a new allowance for single-officer responses in remote and regional areas. Might I say that we are also increasing the sick leave payment—something those opposite failed to do over three previous rounds of agreements. We are giving them additional sick leave days that those opposite refused to give our hardworking paramedics. That now brings them into line with New South Wales—the best in the country.

The agreement also recognises and rewards employees working unsociable night shifts and has a focus on helping our operational staff to finish work on time so they can get home to their families sooner. I give a shout-out to Mel Burns, the union delegate from Metro South whom I met with. I want to let Mel know that we will work harder to get her home on time so she can see her son, Ethan, before he goes to bed at night. Well done, Mel.

I want to thank the United Workers Union for their collaborative engagement and for their shared commitment to support our valued frontline workforce, and I thank Fiona Scanlon and all delegates from the union with respect to the Ambulance Service who came to see me to discuss this on a number of occasions. So happy were they with the results that again they agreed to another photograph with me in the office. I table that very happy snap.

*Tabled paper:* Photograph depicting the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services and member for Clayfield, Hon. Tim Nicholls [1272](#)

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr ACTING SPEAKER:** Order, members! The document has been tabled. Minister for Health, carry on.

**Mr NICHOLLS:** Today's announcement builds on our recent in-principle agreement with the QNMU and AWU to secure nation-leading wages and conditions for our 57,000 nurses and midwives and our earlier deal with Together Queensland and ASMOFQ for our 15,000 world-class medical officers.

The Crisafulli government has now reached in-principle agreement with over 78,000 of our frontline workers in Queensland. That is, almost 40 per cent of the entire Queensland Public Service workforce has reached agreement. Those workers, subject to the ballot being successful, will receive their payments before Christmas—a well-deserved lead-in to the Christmas break.

Each of these agreements demonstrates our commitment to working in partnership with unions to deliver for Queenslanders. The agreements also demonstrate that the Crisafulli government is not only curing Labor's health crisis but delivering on its commitment to grow the health workforce by 46,000 additional workers by 2032.