



Speech By  
**Hon. Amanda Camm**

**MEMBER FOR WHITSUNDAY**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 February 2026

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Thriving Kids**

 **Hon. AJ CAMM** (Whitsunday—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.05 am): I updated the House before Christmas on the Albanese Labor government's proposed Thriving Kids program that will overhaul the NDIS for children with autism. Sadly, it will come as no surprise that there is a risk. There is a risk to children who are diagnosed with autism not only now but also in the future. The federal government are about to shirk their responsibility to deliver critical services to these children and their families, and it is causing exceptional anxiety across our state.

I would like to be standing here today talking about the finer points of the agreement, but, unfortunately, the detail of the scope, design, funding, implementation arrangements and governance has been completely lacking. States are being urged to sign a deal next week without detail. This is causing anxiety, impacting the lives of vulnerable Queensland families. As we understand, the Commonwealth has undertaken modelling around funding states and territories, but we believe this modelling is undercooked and not reflective of the many children and families likely needing to access these supports across the complex and decentralised state that we lead.

There is a risk that the Albanese Labor government's funding will be insufficient. This potentially will put Queensland kids and their families at risk of losing out on their funding, their medical and allied health appointments and the services that are crucial to their future. We have heard nothing from the Queensland Labor opposition or the shadow minister on this issue. Have they stood up to their masters in Canberra and demanded a better deal for Queensland children?

I met with peak bodies and stakeholders this week. The Queensland Disability Network and the Queensland Advocacy for Inclusion are just a couple of the advocacy organisations that are leading the charge in supporting vulnerable families. They expressed their frustration that Thriving Kids has increased the pressure on them with the demand to navigate the system and with the uncertainty. Parents are reaching out as supports shrink or as they are non-existent in parts of our state. We cannot allow those living with a disability and their families, particularly our children, to be short-changed and denied services in their formative years; nor can we allow cost shifting of the federal government's NDIS responsibilities to Queensland taxpayers. We will stand up for Queensland kids and families, and we will continue to fight for our fair share.