




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 3 March 2026

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Bird, Ms LR

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.39 am): I move—

1. That this House desires to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered to this State by the late Lorraine Rita Bird, a former member of the Parliament of Queensland.
2. That Mr Speaker be requested to convey to the family of the deceased lady the above resolution, together with an expression of the sympathy and sorrow of the Members of the Parliament of Queensland, in the loss they have sustained.

Lorraine Rita Bird was born in Charters Towers on 12 February 1942. She went to school at Cardwell State School and St Patrick's Girls College and later studied at the Mackay TAFE College. Ms Bird enjoyed a wide and varied career, from antique dealer and costume restorer to a Lifeline telephone counsellor, community development worker and theatre director and as inaugural secretary of the National Trust of Queensland's Mackay branch.

Ms Bird joined the Australian Labor Party in 1979 and went on to serve as a councillor on the Pioneer Shire Council from 1985 to 1991. She contested the state seat of Whitsunday and won it from the incumbent Geoff Muntz at the state election of December 1989. In so doing, Ms Bird helped the ALP under Wayne Goss to form government in Queensland for the first time in 32 years.

In her first speech in this place Ms Bird named work-based child care, greater equality and job opportunities, and a greater degree of community safety for women and the aged among her top priorities. During her three terms in this House Ms Bird served on many parliamentary committees including public accounts, criminal justice and members' ethics. During 1996 and 1997, she served as shadow minister under Peter Beattie as leader of the opposition, firstly in the portfolio of tourism and later in the portfolio of public works and administrative services. She lost her seat at the 1998 election to One Nation.

Lorraine Rita Bird passed away on 17 November 2025 aged 83 years of age. On behalf of the government, I place on record our thanks for her service over many years. I extend my sympathy and that of this House to her family and friends, particularly her husband, John, who joins us in the House today. Vale, Lorraine Bird.