




Speech By  
**Mark Boothman**

**MEMBER FOR THEODORE**

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**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) (SUPPLEMENTARY 2024-2025) BILL;  
APPROPRIATION (SUPPLEMENTARY 2024-2025) BILL**

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (6.18 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the cognate debate on the appropriation bills. When I think about the appropriation bills, I reflect on my constituents and the wonderful northern Gold Coast. The Theodore electorate is the green behind the gold. It is the green behind the golden beaches—one could say the best beaches in the world. My electorate encompasses the hinterland, where we have beautiful rainforest covered hills. It is a majestic place, a place of true tranquillity.

One of the things I enjoy doing is getting out there amongst my constituents, talking to them and discussing their issues—whether it is letterbox dropping and talking to people in their front yards or doorknocking or doing my regular roadsides—to understand exactly what concerns are coming up for them. One of the issues that a lot of residents talk about is energy security—ensuring that we have the energy for our needs. In saying that, the recent issues in the Persian Gulf and the war in Iran have certainly highlighted that. I say this because so many residents want to know why we are not energy self-sufficient and why there has been a void to get the energy that we need to power our economy.

A lovely gentleman named Gary who stops at my roadsides was talking about this only a week ago. His conversation with me went something like this: ‘Mr Boothman, what is happening about protecting our oil supplies?’ It was a really good question. It just so happened that in the last sitting of parliament our Minister for Mines stood up in this place to make a very important announcement, to say that we are investing in and promoting the exploration of gas and petroleum oil. When I told Gary that, his face lit up. He was like, ‘Wow! This government is actually getting on with the job and protecting the needs of this state going forward to ensure our energy needs are met.’ It is critically important. The announcement by the minister about Taroom Trough in the Bowen-Surat Basin was on 12 February. How important is it that they have actually found good light crude oil! How good is that! That is a new government coming into this place and looking at a plan to protect the future energy needs of our state.

It is not just energy that we need; we also need plastics. The member for Southern Downs was saying earlier that you have to place plastics over the strawberry crops to prevent birds and other creatures from damaging the strawberry crops. It is not just plastics that we need; we also need ag pipe—pipes to ensure that water can be distributed around your property. We also need fertiliser. It is so crucial that we invest in these areas and also ensure that there is development to bring the necessary resources to the surface for us to use to protect our economy. Gary was not the only one. Kerry, who regularly stops, also spoke about this.

When I was doorknocking and talking to a few residents, I spoke to Michael. He is a tradie who is obviously worried about fuel costs, but the first thing he said was, ‘What are we doing about fuel security?’ When I told him about this announcement his eyes lit up and he said, ‘Finally, a government that is willing to take the necessary steps to protect our fuel security.’ That is crucial in an uncertain world. In uncertain times that is what we need to do. The Crisafulli government is certainly getting on

with the job of delivering our energy needs but also protecting us and working out pathways to protect us from unforeseen developments that happen around the world. It is critically important. Whilst these are initial finds—and it is looking very promising—it is very important that the Crisafulli government is looking at developing these areas.

I turn to the wonderful electorate of Theodore and all of the wonderful projects that we announced during the election campaign. They are coming to fruition. The LNP has committed \$1 million towards the Oxenford Men's Shed. It is a council project to build a men's shed that is second to none. The individuals at the men's shed have been waiting many years to get this project up and running. The LNP is now delivering. The LNP is giving the necessary funds to council to get this project up and running. The committee has been working closely with council on designs, ensuring that the designs are exactly what they need to facilitate the perfect men's shed for our local community. It is fantastic news. We are hoping in the near future, in the next few months, that we will be turning the first sod to get this new men's shed underway and built. That will certainly light up the eyes of a lot of men and also ladies who attend ladies day at the shed. This is something they have also been crying out for. It is a wonderful initiative and the Crisafulli government is delivering it.

When it comes to cenotaph upgrades, we are also looking at doing some work at Tallowwood Park and at Cliff Bird Park. A year and a bit ago we moved the old cenotaph on the corner of Charlies Crossing Road North and Tamborine Oxenford Road to Tallowwood Park. Main Roads has done a very nice job of putting pathways in and moving the cenotaph. They have been very respectful. The cenotaph faces east so the soldier sees the sun on his face every morning. It has come up really well. We also need to build a cenotaph at Maudsland. This is something that the Maudsland community have been pleading for ever since they were not allowed to use their cenotaph at the CWA hall any longer. The project is progressing. The money is ready to go. We are looking at progressing this with council. The preliminary designs are done. Geoff Benson, who has been the emcee for that event for the last 17 years, is certainly excited that this new cenotaph is well and truly on its way.

It does not end there. We have so many sporting facilities getting upgrades in the Theodore electorate. We have the Coomera Cubs Baseball Club. They are looking at getting lights—something they have been asking for for a long time. They are really excited that they are going to get some lights there. We are also getting lights for the Coomera Hope Island Cricket Club. Hopefully we can get the full light display for them. Hopefully we can get the first-class lights—fingers crossed—because you could literally play professional international matches on that oval with those types of lights. Fingers crossed that the council can facilitate that.

It does not stop there. The Coomera Colts Soccer Club are getting some new facilities. They are getting a new canteen building. They are going to call it 'The Stables'. They thought the connection between the Colts and 'The Stables' was a good idea and a good name for it. The Pacific Pines AFL Club are getting money to do some retro fits for their hall. It is another big bonus for that club, which is a growing club. There are a number of Victorians moving up to Queensland because they have seen the light. They have seen the beautiful weather up here. They are coming to the Gold Coast, and I do not blame them. We have had a flood of Victorians and they are bringing their love of AFL with them. That is something that we are catering for.

**Mr Stevens:** Go the Suns!

**Mr BOOTHMAN:** Yes, go the Suns! We are catering for that population boom from Victoria. The Helensvale Pacific Pines Hawks Cricket Club are getting money too. There is also Upper Coomera State College—the list goes on. I could go on all night about how wonderful the last budget was for Theodore. It just goes to show how much the LNP cares for our area.

Debate, on motion of Mr Boothman, adjourned.