

*A strong voice for our future*

**BRITTANY LAUGA MP**

B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.dec

**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL  
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER  
FOR EDUCATION**



# MEDIA RELEASE

1 September 2020

## **Lauga joins fight for better pay deal for mine workers**

The Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga has joined Federal Labor's calls for permanent casual miners to receive the same pay and conditions of permanent miners.

Ms Lauga, also the Assistant Minister for Education and a strong advocate for miners' rights, said a Notice of Motion by Labor Senator Murray Watt highlights the harmful impact of casualization and labour hire in the mining industry.

She said thousands of miners are now employed for years as "permanent casuals", with no job security, leave or other benefits enjoyed by permanent miners.

"Now we see the Morrison Government joining a High Court appeal which seeks to keep those miners as 'permanent casuals'.

"Typically, they are siding with the big mine companies which seek to further erode the pay packets of Central Queensland miners."

Ms Lauga said that on top of Labor's fight for better pay and conditions, the Palaszczuk Government has legislated the toughest mine safety laws in the world.

The new legislation opens the way for mining executives to face up to 20 years' jail if mine and quarry workers die because of their criminal negligence.

On May 12 Ms Lauga wrote to Mines and Energy Minister Dr Anthony Lynham urging him to bring forward the debate on the new legislation to force mining companies to uphold Queensland's mine safety laws which are the toughest in Australia.

#### **ELECTORATE OFFICE**

Shop 6, Yeppoon Central Shopping Centre  
42 Park Street, Yeppoon QLD 4703

#### **POSTAL ADDRESS**

Post Office Box 1474  
Yeppoon QLD 4703

#### **CONTACT**

Phone: (07) 4913 1500 Fax: (07) 4913 1509  
Email: keppel@parliament.qld.gov.au

#### **WEBSITE**

[www.brittanylauga.com.au](http://www.brittanylauga.com.au)

She wrote that the recent tragedy at the Grosvenor Mine, where five miners were seriously injured, should be another catalyst for the Palaszczuk Government's ongoing drive to ensure the health and safety of mine workers.

"We also had eight mine and quarry workers die in the past two years. This is simply not good enough.

"Given the seriousness of this most recent mining disaster in Central Queensland, I would urge you to bring this legislation forward for debate in the next Parliamentary Sitting Week starting Tuesday May 19."

"Safety on a mine site is everybody's responsibility.

"I'm committed to working to ensure that the health and safety of workers is the number one priority for the mining sector."

**ENDS**

**Contact John 0400787037**