



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media Statement

February 13, 2019

Labor has yesterday weakened laws that have stopped people smugglers

Labor has sent a signal that asylum seekers illegally arriving by boat can get to Australia, Maranoa MP David Littleproud said today.

Labor teamed up with the Greens and independents to break part of the Coalition Government's approach to border protection in the Federal Parliament yesterday.

"Australia can't afford to be sending mixed messages about boats and people smugglers," Mr Littleproud said.

"This move by Labor begins to hand control of who arrives in our country, and when, to people smugglers."

"The Coalition stopped the boats when we came into government in 2013. There had been 50,000 arrivals by boat and 1200 men, women and children died at sea under Labor's flawed border protection policy. Under the Coalition, no boats have made it to Australia for years."

"Labor's flawed policy cost this country billions-of-dollars last time and it'll cost it a lot more this time around."

"The last thing we need is to become the world's number-one destination for boats again and have people risking their lives at sea."

"We need to keep control of our borders. We need to send a consistent message that if you get on a boat and try to come here, you won't settle in Australia."

"Labor wrecked that message yesterday."

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