



Speech by

Hon. Pat Purcell

MEMBER FOR BULIMBA

Hansard Wednesday, 24 May 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Paramedics and Firefighters, Survey

Hon. PD PURCELL (Bulimba—ALP) (Minister for Emergency Services) (9.59 am): I would like to draw the attention of the House to the results of an Australia-wide survey that was issued yesterday. The survey ranked Australia's most trusted professions. I am delighted to report that ambulance officers topped the survey as the most trusted profession in the country. This is the fourth year in a row that ambulance staff have topped the survey. What is more, firefighters ranked right behind paramedics and are the second most trusted profession in Australia.

This is a wonderful result for the staff of the Queensland Ambulance Service and the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service. It is a reflection of the hard work and dedication that they show in their duties. These personnel are at the front line of keeping Queenslanders safe and they are often in the public eye. They work in conditions that are often challenging and stressful—and I would say in some cases very stressful—not to mention at times extremely dangerous. However, in these conditions they are committed to helping others.

That these personnel should rate so highly in the eyes of their fellow Australians is something about which all ambulance and fire and rescue personnel should be very proud. I am sure that I speak for all members of the House when I thank these people for the great work that they put in each and every day to make Queensland a safer place in which to live.

Tabled paper: Copy of ministerial statement by the Minister for Emergency Services titled *paramedics and firefighters Australia's most trusted professions*.