



Speech by

**Paul Hoolihan**

**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL**

Hansard Thursday, 25 May 2006

---

## **QUEENSLAND CANCER FUND RELAY FOR LIFE**

**Mr HOOLIHAN** (Keppel—ALP) (10.25 am): On 20 May at 3 o'clock 99 teams of 10 to 15 people lined up at the Central Queensland University for the start of the Queensland Cancer Fund's Relay for Life. I had the honour to be requested to be the ground announcer for the first two hours. The Relay for Life raised over \$200,000. That is not why I want to bring it to the notice of this House. At the start of that relay there were approximately 150 people who lined up to lead the relay off. Every one of those people wore a red sash across their shoulder which showed that they were a survivor of cancer. Most of those people came from central Queensland, down as far as Biloela which is in the member for Callide's electorate.

The significance of those 150 survivors seems to be lost on so many people when we hear the carping and the whining of the opposition in relation to health. Of those 150 people roughly 60 per cent received their treatment from go to whoa from Queensland Health. They received their diagnosis, which is always a disaster, they received their operation, they received their treatment and on Saturday they walked around an oval to show that they were the product of a very, very good health system.

I say to this crowd over here who want to criticise Queensland Health: go out and talk to the 60 per cent of the 150 people—which is roughly 90 from our area—who were treated by Queensland Health. Go out and talk to the survivors who received their treatment from Queensland Health. Those opposite ought to stop and think about the way that they treat Queensland Health when we have so many people who are so thankful for the treatment that they received through it.