




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

**HEALTH PRACTITIONER REGISTRATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (12.42 pm): It gives me great pleasure to rise in the House today to make a very short contribution to the Health Practitioner Registration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012.

Dr Flegg: That is a very hard act to follow.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I will take that interjection. The member for Coomera is a very hard act to follow. Unlike the member for Coomera, I still have all of my teeth. Back to the very important bill at hand, I would like to congratulate the minister, the Hon. Lawrence Springborg, for the great work he is doing in this very important area of health. He is doing a great job. This is just one small piece in the puzzle that this LNP government is having to put back together after the diabolical years and mismanagement of the previous Labor government.

This bill goes towards reducing the regulatory burden across the state for dental technicians and speech pathologists. Abolishing the registration scheme for these wonderful people is consistent with the government's commitment to reduce regulatory burden by 20 per cent. This bill helps businesspeople get on with the job that they are trained to do; it relieves a bit of financial pressure for them; and, because it harmonises the laws across the states, it gives them greater mobility so that they can practice in Queensland as well as New South Wales and other states without onerous extra registration fees. It is very important for all areas, in particular the Nanango electorate, as we have some wonderful speech pathologists and dental technicians in our area.

Mr Crandon: How do you know?

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I know because we have Rohan and Myolene Voller. Their dental practice is new to our area. Rohan is a dental practitioner. It is a wonderful profession and he is doing a great job to bring such a good private service to the Kingaroy and South Burnett area. Ceasing the state based registration decreases the regulatory and registration burden on dental technicians and speech pathologists which will ultimately lead to decreased costs for them to practise. As I said, it increases workforce mobility, which is extremely important, and allows harmonisation of the laws.

The Office of Best Practice Regulation, set up as an election commitment under the QCA, has just released its reducing regulatory burden final report. One of its immediate goals is to address harmonisation of laws across the state. This is extremely important for us here in Queensland because we need to cut back on the onerous regulation and burden on many professionals. The bill at hand is particularly important and will be very well received by these amazing dental technicians and speech pathologists. I thank the minister for the hard work he has done in contributing to this bill before the House. It will certainly go a long way to reduce the regulatory burden across the state.