




Speech By
Hon. Fiona Simpson

MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Visitors to Public Gallery

 **Madam SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I wish to acknowledge the presence in the public gallery of a number of people who suffered terribly during their childhoods while they were in the care of the state of Queensland. As children needing care, they were inappropriately placed in adult mental health facilities alongside adults with mental health issues. They suffered and witnessed maltreatment and neglect.

In 2010 the previous government gave an apology to those who suffered from this abuse. This apology is now on public display here in the Parliamentary Annexe building's entrance level area, and I encourage all members to read and better understand the issues surrounding this very sad part of our history. This apology came about after many years of fighting for recognition and justice, and it is my hope that the display of this apology will help heal a little bit of the pain and suffering of those involved.