




Speech By  
**Hon. Fiona Simpson**

**MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE**

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Record of Proceedings, 5 August 2014

### **WORLD WAR I, 100-YEAR COMMEMORATION**

 **Madam SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I acknowledge statements made today by the Premier and Leader of the Opposition. Today is a very sombre day in Queensland's past. With over 57,000 Queenslanders involved in the First World War, the impact was felt far and wide and remains written in our collective and individual histories. Many left our shores. Sadly, not all returned.

Many of you in this room today will be related to men and women who served in the First World War and in conflicts since. Further, the Parliamentary Library identified 39 former members of the Queensland parliament who served and distinguished themselves in Army, Navy and support services. In most instances, they entered politics after the war, but a small number left parliament to serve and then returned to their role as a member of the Queensland parliament. At least 10 were original Anzacs.

The O'Donovan Room will be open this week throughout each sitting day and during the dinner breaks for members to view a selection of rare texts which are on a short loan to us from the Queensland State Archives. These include original documents relating to the declaration of the First World War. Included is the telegram to the Premier of Queensland from the Prime Minister advising of the outbreak of war, which Premier Newman has quoted earlier this morning.

In the same way that the then Premier of Queensland responded to the Prime Minister advising that 'Queensland unreservedly places all her resources at service of Commonwealth and mother country', we remain unreservedly supportive and united in memory of those who paid such a high price for us.

The question is that the statement be noted and that the House express its agreement with the motion by observing a minute's silence.