




Speech By  
**Michael Crandon**

**MEMBER FOR COOMERA**

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### **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (6.13 pm): I want to make a very short contribution to the debate on the Health Legislation Amendment Bill. Other members have well and truly covered the bill in this debate. I just want to rise in this place and publicly thank the minister for introducing one particular aspect of the bill, the amendment to the act to transfer civil liability for asbestos related matters from local government to the state government. These amendments give effect to the recommendations of *The asbestos report: an investigation into the regulation of asbestos in Queensland*. That report runs to about 80-odd pages. It contains 36 recommendations. One of those recommendations relates to the difficulty for local councils to deal with matters relating to asbestos. Basically, there is now an insurance policy in place to allow those councils to do just that—manage those asbestos cases. This is just another brick in the wall in the fight against asbestos. It is a fight to make people understand the dangers of asbestos in the workplace and in the home.

My family has suffered greatly from the asbestos scourge on Australia. My mother died many years ago now—approaching 20 years ago—from mesothelioma. It was a horrible death. Over an 18-month period she suffered greatly. More recently my father passed away as a result of an asbestos related lung disease. So I appreciate everything that the minister is doing with regard to asbestos.

I also want to bring to the attention of the House a matter that was alluded to by the member for Gaven. The Asbestos Related Disease Support Society Queensland is holding an ecumenical service this Friday at 11 o'clock at the Cathedral of St Stephen in Brisbane. This is an opportunity for us to remember those whom we have lost to asbestos related disease. I encourage any members who are in Brisbane on that day to make their way to the cathedral to spend some time remembering those people whom we have lost to this disease.