



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**MIT Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business) (2.45 pm): One of the key platforms of the Advance Queensland initiative is to provide Queensland entrepreneurs with access to global expertise. To help achieve this, the Palaszczuk government has thrown its support behind a QUT initiative which will see one of the world's top universities, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, or MIT, come to Brisbane in March next year to run a boot camp for up-and-coming entrepreneurs. The MIT Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp will be held at the QUT Gardens Point campus from 26 to 31 March and will draw budding entrepreneurs from around the world. The boot camp has only once before been held outside the United States, so it is quite a coup and a powerful demonstration of Queensland's growing reputation as a hotbed for entrepreneurship and the nation's start-up state. The selection process to participate is run by MIT and by all accounts is very arduous. Those who get through the selection process will be involved in one of the top business training programs in the world. MIT is rightly regarded as a leader in entrepreneurship education. According to a 2014 report, MIT alumni launched more than 30,000 active companies, creating 4.6 million jobs and generating US\$1.9 trillion in annual revenue.

The boot camp condenses a one-year MIT course into an interactive one-week learning experience. The week includes classes led by senior MIT business lecturers such as Bill Aulet, author of the book *Disciplined Entrepreneurship*, and Elaine Chen, senior lecturer at the MIT Sloan School of Management. During the week participants will have to solve a problem, find customers, start a company and then present it to an international panel of venture capitalists from Brisbane, San Francisco and Boston. The boot camp aligns perfectly with our Advance Queensland initiative as it underlines our increasing commitment to generate a vibrant business culture in Queensland—one that prizes entrepreneurship as integral to building a successful knowledge economy and high-quality sustainable jobs. The Palaszczuk government has provided seed funding to assist QUT in attracting the boot camp here. As part of our agreement with QUT, the university will offer three scholarships for Queenslanders to attend the boot camp, including at least one dedicated for an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander entrepreneur. Applications will open soon and I am sure we are going to see huge interest from entrepreneurs right around the world. Attracting the MIT Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp to Queensland is testament to our growing reputation as a global centre of innovation. This is really and truly a massive coup not just for QUT but for all of Queensland.