



Speech By  
**Hon. Cameron Dick**


**MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2017

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Health, Innovation**

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (2.24 pm): Queensland continues to be a destination of choice for health innovation. Recently I spoke at the international immunotherapy conference, where the world's foremost immunotherapy experts, including Sir Marc Feldmann AC, convened in Brisbane to discuss a new field of research and treatment which is being driven by the cutting-edge work that QIMR Berghofer and Queensland's Translational Research Institute are undertaking.

Last year Admedus, an Australian based company that has a global profile in immunotherapies, relocated its corporate office from Perth to Brisbane. I was delighted to be part of that corporate office opening. Last year, the Palaszczuk government and BGI, formerly the Beijing Genomics Institute, announced it had chosen the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute as its research and development and commercialisation headquarters for the Asia-Pacific region. These stories are great examples of Queensland being a destination of choice for health innovation and follow my successful health and life sciences trade mission to the US and China in October 2016.

The Palaszczuk government wants to ensure Queensland continues to be at the top of the table when it comes to new investment in health innovation in Australia. The government's \$405 million Advance Queensland initiative is at the heart of our economic program to create the knowledge industries and jobs of the future. This week, our government is hosting a high-powered Chinese delegation seeking new investment opportunities in health innovation in the state. The Torch Centre invests in health innovation projects, and we are very pleased to host high-level Chinese government and business delegates from seven Chinese provinces. Their visit to Queensland shows we are already prominent on the global map of health innovators. The Palaszczuk government's *Advancing health 2026* strategy has innovation as a key direction. This visit represents a wonderful opportunity to showcase our capability to the world. The delegation will visit QIMR Berghofer and the Translational Research Institute in Brisbane to view their important work, before heading to the Gold Coast to inspect the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct.

The Palaszczuk government already has six government-to-government agreements in place with a focus on collaboration in health and medicine, and Queensland universities and researchers also have numerous research and commercial agreements with China. I want this key delegation to know that Queensland is the best place in the world to invest in health innovation today and into the future.