




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Cruise Ships

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (8.47 pm): The bayside was abuzz last Wednesday with the arrival of Royal Caribbean's *Ovation of the Seas* as this majestic cruise ship docked at the port of Brisbane for a stopover on its maiden voyage. What a magnificent sight it was. The Royal Caribbean flagship vessel could be seen from the Qandamooka Jetty in Wynnum and certainly had the locals talking. The local ladies at the ARAD cent auction were very enthralled by the sight.

Mr Furner: I am sure they were.

Ms PEASE: They were. Thank you for that interjection. It was great to have the Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business, Leeanne Enoch, welcome Captain Loy and his crew to the port of Brisbane.

The cruise industry is key to tourism in Queensland. We have seen double-digit growth in the number of cruise ships calling into Queensland destinations over the past eight years. *Ovation of the Seas* is the fourth largest cruise ship in the world, spanning the length of three football fields, with 18 decks and accommodating 4,905 guests and 1,500 staff. It was great to welcome guests and staff to Queensland. There is no better city in the world than Brisbane. I would go even further and say that there is no better place in the world than Wynnum Manly to visit. In fact, last Wednesday we saw two cruise ships in the port in Brisbane—the *Ovation of the Seas* and P&O's *Arcadia*.

The cruise industry is a major player in the state's booming \$23 billion tourism industry, with 320 cruise ships visiting Queensland last year—and these numbers continue to grow. Last week alone we welcomed five ships to South-East Queensland. This means that in one week over 12,000 passengers were exposed to the world-class experiences on offer in Brisbane and on the bayside.

The Queensland government welcomes cruise ships and the contribution they make to our state. The cruise sector already supports more than 2,700 jobs in Queensland, and the state is well placed to expand its position in the Oceania cruise marketplace. This means more jobs in the region including the bayside, more support for local businesses and all the benefits that passengers and visitors bring to our regions.

It is great that more cruise liners are basing their ships in Brisbane, delivering cruises around Australia and across New Zealand, the South Pacific and Papua New Guinea. We Wynnum Manly locals were all very excited to see the majestic *Ovation of the Seas* and look forward to again welcoming her and other cruise ships just like her to our region.