



Speech By  
**Joan Pease**


**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

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## **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL**

### **Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee, Report**

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (4.34 pm): I rise to speak in support of report No. 9 of the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee's examination of the budget estimates for the 2018-19 financial year. This year we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of Queensland Parliament House, and what many changes there have been in those 150 years! I can only imagine what the parliamentarians of 150 years ago would have thought when, because I was unable to attend estimates in person, I was able to watch the hearings via live streaming. This would have been unimaginable 150 years ago—something completely unthinkable and so unbelievable that they would not have been able to imagine such a thing. May I suggest, Mr Deputy Speaker, that the parliamentarians of that bygone era would be equally astounded by the appalling display by the opposition during the entire estimates process. Their lack of understanding of the standing rules and orders was obvious, as was their total lack of preparation—yet another example of why they will continue to be in opposition.

As I stated earlier, I was unable to attend the hearings. I would like to thank the member for Nudgee, my friend Leanne Linard, for generously giving her time to represent me during the estimates process. I would also like to acknowledge the work of the committee that I am currently on—the chair, the member for Thuringowa and my fellow committee members. I would like to thank the secretariat for their ongoing work and particularly the ministers and also the Auslan interpreters.

I would like to thank the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services, the Hon. Steven Miles; the Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors, the Hon. Coralee O'Rourke; and the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, the Hon. Di Farmer, not only for their responses on the day but also for their ongoing collective contribution to the people of Queensland, improving the lives of so many. They provide important and valuable services not just in my electorate of Lytton but across the whole of Queensland. I would also like to thank the ministers' departmental officers for their cooperation in providing information during the process.

The consideration of the budget estimates allows for the public examination of the responsible ministers and the chief executive officers of agencies within our committee's portfolio areas. It is an important process. As I said earlier, I was incredibly disappointed that I was unable to attend estimates in person. However, I was equally disappointed by the questioning and the ongoing complaints about the limited time offered to members of the opposition. If they want a good answer to a question, they should ask a good question. I commend the report to the House.