



Speech By  
**Ros Bates**


**MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA**

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Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2018

## **VACANCY IN SENATE OF COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

### **Election of Senator**

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.38 pm): I am very pleased to support the motion in relation to Amanda Stoker who will be an outstanding senator for Queensland. I am confident that Amanda will be a strong voice for Queenslanders across this state. As we have heard, Amanda is a lawyer, a daughter, a wife, a proud mother to three young daughters, Mary, Jane and Emma—who have been so well behaved in the gallery today—and a successful barrister.

The LNP has an open, transparent and democratic process where our everyday party members have their say. Amanda is a great example of what happens when talented female candidates put up their hands to seek preselection in the LNP. Throughout our process, you get the best person for the job out of a field of highly qualified individuals.

Amanda's background is an impressive story. After growing up in Campbelltown, completing high school and studying law and arts at the University of Sydney, she graduated with two degrees with first class honours. She went on to work at MinterEllison in Sydney and became an associate to then justice Ian Callinan in the High Court and then justice Philip McMurdo in the Supreme Court. Shortly after, she decided that Queensland is the best state in which to live, work and raise a family, as we all know. She moved up here with her family and worked for the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions as a prosecutor based out of Brisbane. She went to the bar in 2011 and has worked across Queensland.

Amanda is a passionate advocate of freedom of speech, equality of opportunity and responsible economic management. She brings with her a deep interest in and understanding of the law and our legal system. As the shadow minister for women and the patron of LNP women, I am very proud to be part of a party that will continue to promote opportunities for women to get involved and put up their hands. We will continue to recruit the best people for the job from all walks of life who reflect the experiences and values of everyday Queenslanders. I congratulate you, Amanda, on your new role and look forward to working with you in the future.