




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MOTION

Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (5.05 pm): The member for Mudgeeraba must have been up all night googling news stories to get her feeble list together for this motion, and even then she could only get to (k). Those opposite only seem able to understand alphabetised lists. It is like they are writing for BuzzFeed. It turns out though that the Palaszczuk government has a whole alphabet of achievements to stand up against the member for Mudgeeraba's (a) to (k) of complaints.

A: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, where the first has been appointed on Cape York Peninsula and more are rolling out across North Queensland. B: Bailey Henderson, the site for a brand-new Toowoomba Hospital. C: the Commonwealth Games, where our ambos and health staff were the real stars. D: dialysis, where we are investing \$20 million to enhance renal services in North Queensland.

E: we are expanding aeromedical services in Central Queensland, with the CQ Rescue Helicopter Service in Mackay now staffed to provide 24/7 medical coverage. F: we have new foot clinics so Queenslanders with diabetes will receive treatment earlier, saving them from amputation. G: we are growing the use of medicinal cannabis, with 10 additional places being made available for the trial at Children's Health Queensland.

H: hospitals, where we are investing in major redevelopments at Logan, Caboolture, Ipswich, Nambour, Redcliffe, Kingaroy, Atherton and Roma. I: the \$100 million ice strategy to reduce the impact of ice on Queensland families and communities. J: Julia Creek Hospital, with the \$8.4 million replacement of the multipurpose health facility at Julia Creek—just one of 140 remote and rural health facilities.

Government members: K!

Dr MILES: K: we are keeping up with demand, investing half a billion dollars in the Specialist Outpatient Strategy.

Government members: L!

Dr MILES: L: we are listening. We listened to the 900 doctors who petitioned to change the name of the children's hospital.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: There are members who are not in their own seats and they are interjecting. I ask members to return to their seats if they wish to do so. I know this is a robust debate but I am having difficulty hearing some of the points made by the minister, which means Hansard is also having difficulty.

Dr MILES: We listened to the 900 doctors who petitioned to change the name of the children's hospital. We listened to the board, we listened to the hospital foundation and we listened to the 39,000 Queenslanders who had their say. M: we are investing \$350 million in statewide mental health, alcohol and other drug services. N: nurses and midwives, where instead of sacking nurses, like the LNP government did, we have employed 6,070 full-time-equivalent nurses and midwives. O: we have opened the PA's new patient access coordination hub which provides a bird's-eye view of demand, patient flow and bed capacity, making patients' visits smoother and faster.

P: we delivered a long overdue pay rise to our hardworking ambulance officers and paramedics, bringing them into line with their counterparts in the rest of the country. Q: the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Rheumatic Heart Disease Action Plan. R: a record Health budget, more than \$18.3 million. S: sexual and reproductive health including passing historic laws to allow women to control their reproductive health.

Ms Trad interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Minister, please resume your seat. Deputy Premier, can you please return to your own seat if you wish to interject.

Dr MILES: T: for the Torres Strait Islands—primary healthcare centres on five islands will get a \$14.7 million investment. U: universities went smoke free, the largest ever voluntary smoke-free initiative, saving 400,000 students and staff from passive smoke. V: vaccinations—from free flu vaccines for children under 5 to home visit immunisation clinics. W: winter beds. X: more X-ray facilities. Y: youth mental health—fixing the mistakes of the Newman government in closing the Barrett Adolescent Centre. Z: we have zealously pursued every single dollar owed to our hospitals by the Commonwealth.

I am not done; there is literally more than an alphabet of achievements for this Palaszczuk government, which stands up against the feeble list of whinges from the member for Mudgeeraba.