




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

Record of Proceedings, 14 February 2019

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Screen Industry

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (2.51 pm): Sets, cast, crew, costumes and stars on the red carpet. 'Lights, camera, action!' That is what we locals are seeing and hearing down on Gosport Street, Hemmant—no, not in Hollywood; in Hemmant. Yes, thanks to the Palaszczuk government, Hollywood has come to Hemmant with the opening of Screen Queensland's \$12 million fit-for-purpose studio. The repurposing of a former cotton shed as a new studio production facility just 15 kilometres from the Brisbane CBD is another example of the Palaszczuk government's commitment to diversifying our economy and bringing a new wave of investment in our creative sector which will create more jobs and continue growth in the sector.

We have seen a production boom in recent years, with one of the most prolific periods of film and television production in the history of our state. And why not? We have an impressive creative sector. In fact, we have a few performers in this place who might consider auditioning for a role or two! I jest. Our locations are second to none. In the bayside we have amazing backdrops—from our historical Fort Lytton, which has already gained fame in an Angelina Jolie film, to our port, our beaches and our suburban and industrial locations—coupled with our bright sunshine. Perfect! This is all within 15 minutes of the domestic and international airports and only seven minutes from the Wynnum CBD. The new studio will help to meet Queensland's growing demand for an already thriving local and international production base by providing sound stages, warehouses for set construction, workshops, art departments and short-term storage.

I am so proud and so very excited and thrilled that we have a permanent location for the screen industry in our beautiful bayside. The studio comprises two sound stages, two warehouses, mixed-use buildings, production offices and 200 car parks. Production began the day after the studio opened and it is booked for 26 weeks already. I am told that there are already a number of booking holds in place for the studio. This means jobs. It means opportunities for all Queenslanders. Importantly, it offers opportunities for baysiders, with flow-on benefits for the surrounding suburbs, with our fabulous local backdrops, and also for local businesses as diverse as carpenters, caterers, accommodation, banks and other services. It really is an exciting time.

Last financial year, production supported by the Palaszczuk government generated an estimated \$114 million of direct expenditure into the local economy, with more than 1,500 jobs directly related to screen production. This does not include the indirect benefits in spin-offs such as the tourism, trade and investment it creates across Queensland and the bayside. Hooray for Hemmant!