




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

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DISABILITY SERVICES AND OTHER LEGISLATION (NDIS) AMENDMENT BILL

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (11.40 am): Today I rise to speak in support of the Queensland government's Disability Services and Other Legislation (NDIS) Amendment Bill 2019. Taking care of vulnerable members of our community is something that the Palaszczuk Labor government does so well. Each of us on this side of the chamber takes our responsibilities seriously and we all work very hard to ensure that each and every member of our community is taken care of. Like my colleagues before me yesterday, I found the speeches given by those opposite ingenuous and may I suggest that given the time of the year perhaps they are all auditioning for the Gold Logie. Look out, Costa! I reckon he might be feeling a bit threatened because he might be bumped by the member for Currumbin after her performance yesterday.

I am extremely fortunate to have amazing organisations in the bayside that provide extraordinary support to the people and families living with a disability. Open Minds is just one project that is supported by volunteers and workers alike, entertaining and engaging with baysiders each and every Wednesday morning at George Clayton Park. If you are free on a Wednesday morning, I encourage everyone to pop down. Darling Point Special School, which just last week hosted its 41st fun run with over 800 participants from special schools across all of Brisbane, is yet another fine example of these excellent services provided in the bayside. Last week at the fun run we all came together as a community, supporting students, parents, carers, teachers and staff. The dedication and support of the staff at Darling Point under the stewardship of Charmaine Driver, the principal—who, I might add, is a force to be reckoned with—are outstanding.

After a busy week organising the fun run, we then saw the students, their parents, carers and teachers join forces again with the mighty Wynnum Manly Seagulls as they thrashed the Ipswich Jets. They entertained the crowd at half-time, showing off their footy skills. This is just a tiny snapshot of a few days in the bayside of those living with a disability in our community and the unbelievable organisations that work in this area. It is a reminder why we as a government must always do our very best to ensure that we support our community in the best way possible.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme represents a fundamental change to how services for these people whom I have been speaking about are funded and how the services are delivered to them. The key aim of the NDIS is to allow participants to have greater choice and control in the pursuit of their goals and in the planning and delivery of their supports. The Disability Services and Other Legislation (NDIS) Amendment Bill 2019 is necessary to ensure that Queensland has made all amendments required to support the commencement of the operation of the NDIS commission from 1 July 2019. As such, the Disability Services and Other Legislation (NDIS) Amendment Bill amends the Coroners Act 2003, the Disability Services Act 2006, the Guardianship and Administration Act 2000, the Public Guardian Act and the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000 to ensure that the DSA operates in conjunction with the Commonwealth legislative framework to provide a strong quality and safeguards framework. Further, the bill will ensure that existing DSA quality and safeguards continue to apply to disability services currently regulated under the DSA that will be outside of the

NDIS. It will also strengthen the operation of Queensland's disability workers screening system and, further, ensure that deaths of certain NDIS participants must continue to be reported to the State Coroner.

The PGA is amended to guarantee community visitors must continue to visit sites where certain NDIS participants are in order to protect participants' rights and interests. Further, the bill will enable appropriate information sharing to occur with the NDIS commissioner to assist with the performance of the NDIS commissioner's functions under the NDIS Act. I take this time again to acknowledge the parents, carers and workers in this sector and thank each and every one of them for their ongoing dedication and support and the outstanding work that they do each and every day. I commend the bill to the House.