




Speech By
Patrick Weir

MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

Record of Proceedings, 27 March 2019

ADJORNMENT

Nolan Jr, Mr B; Pfeffer, Mr L; Raine, Prof. S

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (7.12 pm): In the past six months the agricultural sector in Queensland has lost three prominent men, all taken too early: Professor Steven Raine, Basil Nolan Jr and Lyndon Pfeffer. All three played significant roles in each of their agricultural pursuits. Queensland agriculture has lost a wealth of knowledge with their passing.

Basil Nolan Jr was a multigenerational thoroughbred breeder. He owned and managed the Raheen Stud at Gladfield, near Warwick. The whole racing industry across Australia knew the name Basil Nolan Jr and his love of thoroughbreds. Basil was described as one of the industry's true gentlemen who was a great horseman, a warm and generous man devoted to his family and a wonderful advocate for the thoroughbred industry. It was with great sadness that I heard of the terrible accident that had taken Basil's life at such an early age. He will be truly missed by all who knew him, as well as for his contribution to the thoroughbred industry in Queensland.

Lyndon Pfeffer passed away several weeks after being involved in a two-vehicle accident as he was turning into his property at Pampas. Lyndon was the former AgForce grains president, a position he held from 2005 until 2010. His input and knowledge of the grains sector had many positive outcomes and did much to advance the industry. Lyndon was dedicated to his community and the grains industry, culminating in him winning the Queensland Grain Grower of the Year in 2012, where he was presented with the Jason Rae Memorial award. Lyndon was a prominent farmer on the Darling Downs, known and respected by many in the district. His untimely death was a sad loss to the grains industry in Queensland.

Professor Steven Raine was a man I admired from the first time I met him. His enthusiasm and passion for the agricultural sector were infectious. To lose such a brilliant mind to brain cancer was particularly sad. Steve joined USQ in 1995 as associate head of the agricultural and environmental engineering faculty and held a number of other positions before becoming executive director of the Institute for Agriculture and the Environment in 2013. During his time at USQ Steve developed and presented education and training programs to engage industry partners and encourage effective educational partnering within the community. All levels of government regularly sought his advice on many agricultural matters, and he was regarded by industry and government as one of Australia's key agricultural research leaders and industry champions. In Steve's own words, he was 'dedicated to a positive sustainable future for global agriculture, achieved through building a broad community of trust based on collaboration and effective communication of science'. I offer my sympathies to the families and friends of these three remarkable men.