




Speech By  
**Ros Bates**

**MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA**

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### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING QUEENSLAND BILL**

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (6.57 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Health and Wellbeing Queensland Bill introduced by the health minister earlier this year. As many of the public health groups would say in response to this bill, finally this issue is being debated and resolved. From the outset I want to categorically state that the LNP supports preventive health from both a public health and an economic perspective. However, I hold reservations about just how serious this Labor government is about improving the overall health and health outcomes of Queenslanders.

While the establishment of Health and Wellbeing Queensland is not an example of too little too late, it is certainly another example of the Palaszczuk government dragging its feet to put words into actions. Establishing a preventive health commission was a Labor election commitment in 2015 and clearly not a priority. It has taken over four years to deliver. Furthermore, I question this government's commitment to tackling preventive health in Queensland.

Last year Labor actually cut the budget for the preventive health branch of Queensland Health by almost \$300,000, while budgeting to waste around \$500,000 of taxpayers' money ripping Lady Phyllis Cilento's name off our main children's hospital. At the time I called for these cuts to be reversed. I did this on behalf of doctors across our state who are demanding action on our obesity and chronic disease crises in Queensland. It shows once again that, when it comes to health and ensuring that Queenslanders have access to a world-class public health system, the Palaszczuk Labor government's priorities are all wrong. At the same time, our public hospitals are at breaking point and patient care is suffering as a result, promised hospital upgrades are years away from completion and Labor is wasting money on IT upgrades that do not work.

**Mr KELLY:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Whiting): Order! There is no point of order at this time, but the member for Mudgeeraba knows quite well to stick to the long title of the bill.

**Ms BATES:** The integrated electronic Medical Record has been bungled, and we have seen corruption allegations being swept under the carpet for too long and the concerns—

**Mr KELLY:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to point of order. I fail to see how this relates to the long title of the bill.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Mudgeeraba, you are straying away from the long title of the bill. I have given you some direction. I am requesting that you stick to the long title of the bill. Before you recommence, I ask that you move that the debate be adjourned.

Debate, on motion of Ms Bates, adjourned.