




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Federal Election, Health Funding

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.18 pm): Australians wholeheartedly rejected Labor's 'Mediscare' campaign during the 2016 federal election. We have seen Bill Shorten, federal Labor frontbenchers and Labor candidates dashing across the state over the past few weeks from Cairns to Coolangatta trotting out the same mistruths and falsehoods about health funding and anything else they can make up to try to win the upcoming federal election.

It is 'Mediscare' mark 2, which Queenslanders are seeing through—like they did last time. It is the same tactic we saw from Queensland's own embattled Labor health minister last year, but that train of misinformation has well and truly run out of steam. We all know the health minister is a fraud, a phoney and a fake, and Queenslanders have seen through his 'dog ate my homework' excuse. It is time that Labor stopped playing politics with our public health system and started focusing on better patient care.

Let us look at the facts. We only have to look at the breakdown of funding increases under the federal coalition compared to Queensland Labor for Queensland public health services. This is done by comparing data through the National Health Funding Pool. Between 2014-15 and 2017-18, there was an increase of 40.2 per cent of funding from Canberra and just 12.1 per cent from Queensland Labor. That is an increase of \$1.23 billion from Canberra compared to \$747.7 million from Queensland Labor. Despite that, we see the same old blame Canberra rhetoric from the Palaszczuk Labor government because they can never accept the facts. They would rather take their advice from spin doctors rather than the real doctors.

Let us have a look at the LNP's record in Queensland—something this government is obsessed with. Between 2012-13 and 2014-15, the former Queensland LNP government increased total state government funding from \$5.158 billion to \$6.172 billion—in just two years an increase of more than \$1 billion. That is compared to \$747 million in the first three years of this state Labor government.

While we are comparing health spending, let us look at the Queensland Health capital budget under the LNP government in Queensland compared with the Palaszczuk Labor government. In comparing the Queensland Health capital program, including capital grants, the LNP spent \$688.47 million per year more than the Palaszczuk Labor government. I table a comparison for the benefit of all members.

Tabled paper. Chart, undated, titled 'Queensland Health Capital Program Budget (\$m)' from 2012-13 to 2018-19 [786](#).

The Palaszczuk Labor government's record in public health services, particularly since the 2017 state election, has been one of crisis management. Hospitals are at breaking point, promised hospital upgrades are years away from completion, emergency departments are overcrowded, ambulance ramping has continued to increase, waiting lists are blowing out, we are seeing a bush baby crisis and assaults on staff have skyrocketed. Queenslanders should not be treated like fools by Labor. They will reject 'Mediscare' mark 2 when they vote to re-elect the Morrison coalition government this weekend.

(Time expired)