




Speech By
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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Queensland Health, IT Systems

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.00 pm): Queenslanders know that Labor and Health IT projects just do not mix. We have seen it all before with the \$1.25 billion Health payroll debacle under the Bligh Labor government that still lives on today, almost a decade later. Sadly for our public health system, Labor's mismanagement of Health IT projects is a nightmare that is never-ending.

Today's media reports show the fallout from Labor's latest Health IT bungle. In September last year it was reported that the S/4Hana project was reporting 'red' on the IT dashboard due to schedule delays and an anticipated funding shortfall due to integration complexities and change management activities required. To date we have seen the \$135 million S/4Hana project crash within hours of commencement, leaving nurses having to manually order basic medical supplies to stockpile in case of a major shortage. That was on 1 August this year and it seems that there is no end in sight for Labor's latest digital disaster. Today we hear reports that Queensland Health has had to set up a special phone hotline for complaints about the failed ordering system because of complaints about suppliers being left out of pocket.

This is a project that was \$30 million over its projected budget and months behind schedule. It was designed to be put in place to replace the Finance and Materials Management Information System, FAMMIS. It also seems that Labor have learnt nothing from the lessons of their \$1.25 billion Health payroll debacle—an IT system stopped and the new one commenced without any overlap or safety net. It was absolutely crazy for the Palaszczuk Labor government to launch this new IT system in the middle of the flu season. I feel for the doctors, nurses and patients who have been affected by this latest digital disaster.

We know that Labor cannot run the health system and they cannot run IT systems. It is clear that 10 years after the payroll debacle Labor has not learned a single thing, and yet again the embattled health minister, Steven Miles, is missing in action. When the initial system crash was revealed, the health minister actually blamed it on the staff—absolutely shameful comments that he should apologise for. On 10 August this year he said, 'The concerns that I'm aware of generally relate to the usage of the system, not the system itself.' I table that media article entitled 'Miles runs for cover over Health tech bungle after ordering system fails'.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Courier-Mail*, dated 10 August 2019, titled 'Miles runs for cover over Health tech bungle after ordering system fails' [1566](#).

Our hospitals are overwhelmed most of the time. Now staff are wasting precious time that should be spent on sick patients. We know that Labor still have not fixed the payroll debacle and the electronic medical records system is a shambles. If I were Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk, I would not let health minister Steven Miles touch a keyboard. While nurses are having to order band-aids on the corporate bankcard they are not doing what they are trained to do, and that is focusing on patient care.