




Speech By
Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Health System

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.30 pm): Unfortunately for Queenslanders, 2019 has been another year of Labor health failures and once again the embattled health minister has been completely missing in action. Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk promised better local health services at the last state election, but the health system is in crisis. Our hardworking nurses, doctors, midwives and paramedics work tirelessly each and every day to save lives, and they do a fantastic job. No-one is criticising them for the tough job that they have to do and as a nurse I certainly appreciate what life is like on the front line for our frontline warriors.

Following on from the Lady Cilento name change debacle last year, we have seen more wasteful spending on Labor's health IT disasters and patient outcomes going backwards. Ambulance ramping data is the worst on record. Elective surgery waiting lists have blown out by 26,000 Queenslanders since the Palaszczuk Labor government was elected. Violence in our hospitals is out of control, with nurses being treated like punching bags given the latest statistics revealed late last week. In response to that, the health minister actually welcomed more people reporting their assaults. Talk about out of touch! What a complete fraud, and there was no mention of the staff who do not ever report their assaults because this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Earlier this week the Auditor-General tabled another scathing report into the financial management of Queensland's health services. The report found that Queensland Health entities should strengthen their controls and processes. The Auditor-General undertook a limited review of the preproduction environment prior to go-live. It did not focus on program governance, including change management. Prior to go-live the Audit Office informed the department about issues that were identified in relation to role mapping and process mapping—important processes for the rollout of any new IT system. These issues were not resolved prior to go-live on 1 August this year.

What is clear is that Labor has not learnt a thing since its Health payroll debacle almost a decade ago. When issues first arose, the health minister actually blamed user error—in other words, our hardworking nurses trying to manage with another Labor health failure. Labor's latest digital disaster was six months late, \$30 million over budget and is causing chaos in hospitals for nurses and patients. In light of the reference in this report, I have written to the Auditor-General today asking that a performance audit be undertaken into the failed rollout of the S/4HANA medical ordering system which has seen nurses having to order band-aids on the bankcard and small business suppliers being treated like cash cows. The Auditor-General could get to the bottom of what went wrong with yet another failed Labor IT project rollout and provide recommendations to fix the problem.

This is yet another example of Labor's failed health priorities and wasting taxpayers' money that could be spent helping nurses and doctors with patient care. Queenslanders deserve a world-class public health system that the Palaszczuk Labor government is not delivering. The only way to fix

Queensland's ailing health system is to vote for the LNP in October 2020. The Minister for Health is a fraud, a phoney and a failure. If the Premier was not the weakest Premier Queensland has ever seen, she would sack her incompetent, embattled Minister for Health today.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Order! Member for Mudgeeraba, during your speech you have used unparliamentary language. I ask you to withdraw.

Ms BATES: I withdraw.