




Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**  
**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 June 2019

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Budget, Health

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (9.49 am): Today the Palaszczuk government will deliver a record health budget for Queenslanders. It will see the largest ever investment in health care by any Queensland government. We will spend a total of \$19.2 billion—that is an almost \$930 million increase on last year's budget—to treat more people, build more hospitals and strengthen frontline services. From day 1, the Palaszczuk government has made health a priority. We are investing in hospitals and frontline staff right across the state to ensure every Queenslanders has access to world-class health care, no matter where they live.

The bulk of our funding will go to Queensland's hospitals. We are improving and building better hospitals with a \$777.7 million infrastructure investment next year alone. Our health infrastructure budget will deliver projects that will ensure there are enough beds available to keep meeting increased demand as Queensland's population grows and ages. It includes funding for the redevelopment of Logan and Caboolture hospitals, two projects not just delivering better hospitals for people in our growth corridors but also thousands of jobs for Queenslanders. The Caboolture Hospital redevelopment project will support 1,048 jobs for Queenslanders. The Logan Hospital redevelopment will deliver 1,369 jobs in its construction. There are also funds to continue redeveloping Roma Hospital and upgrade the Gladstone Hospital emergency department, plus \$40.7 million for projects in the Rural and Regional Infrastructure Package which will benefit Blackall, Sarina and Kingaroy. There is \$27.9 million to complete a new Adolescent Extended Treatment Centre at the Prince Charles Hospital, two new youth adolescent Step Up, Step Down units in Logan and Caboolture and the refurbishment of two adolescent day program spaces in Logan and the Gold Coast.

Today we will see a health budget that addresses the growing demand for public health services across the state. Today we will see a health budget that continues to create more jobs for doctors, nurses, midwives and health professionals right across this state. Since 2015 we have hired 5,988 nurses, 2,020 doctors, 1,761 health professionals and 508 ambulance officers. This budget builds on those numbers and we expect to hire nearly 800 more nurses, 200 more doctors, 250 more health professionals and 200 more ambulance officers in the next financial year. We are also making 400 nurse navigator and 100 midwife positions permanent jobs with a \$147.5 million funding boost. We are delivering on more public mental health services, including almost \$62 million in initiatives to prevent suicide prevention. This year's Health budget reinforces our government's commitment to delivering high-quality health care to Queenslanders wherever they live.