



Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 6 February 2020

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Coronavirus; Queensland Ambulance Service**

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (9.50 am): I rise to update the House again today on the state of the coronavirus response here in Queensland. Overnight, health workers confirmed another case of the novel coronavirus in a 37-year-old man who has been in isolation with the same tour group from which the previous three cases were identified. He is receiving excellent care at the Gold Coast University Hospital. The rest of that group remain in quarantine as a precaution. The global number of cases is now 24,632, with 494 recorded deaths. Despite this new case, Queensland's efforts to halt the spread have been working. 13HEALTH has taken 2,100 calls and its dedicated nurses have completed 686 assessments. An extraordinary Executive Council was held yesterday to extend the public health emergency order so that there is no interruption to our efforts to protect Queenslanders from this virus.

I am also pleased to advise the House that the Chinese women's national football team has completed its isolation period. They are all healthy. The team, who flew into Brisbane a week ago, had been confined in their hotel under isolation after previously training in Wuhan province until 22 January—the Chinese city where the outbreak has been traced to. I want to thank the team for its cooperation with Queensland Health during this difficult time. We realise that it has been a major disruption to its preparation but also a difficult time for each team member personally. The team will fly to Sydney on Thursday to resume its campaign. It will take on Thailand, playing for an eventual spot to compete at the Tokyo Olympics. It is a credit to the hotel, its staff and management how well that isolation was managed. Last night I also took the opportunity to thank the Consul-General and express to him my appreciation for the Consul's support for Queensland Health through the emergency so far.

Finally, Queensland's Ambulance Service is one of the best in the world. It is so good that it is getting its own reality TV show. In recent months, observational documentary crews have been riding along with some of our best ambos. They have also been filming in our comms centre. Season 3 of *Ambulance Australia* appears tonight on Channel 10 at seven o'clock and I urge all members to tune in.