




Speech By
Brittany Lauga

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

Record of Proceedings, 14 September 2021

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING BILL

 **Ms LAUGA** (Keppel—ALP) (7.22 pm): I rise this evening to speak in support of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021. In doing so can I thank the Premier for her leadership and the Deputy Premier for his leadership and for his time as health minister seeing this bill progress. Can I thank the health committee and the Queensland Law Reform Commission. With respect to the health committee, in particular can I thank my good friend and colleague the member for Thuringowa, Aaron Harper, who has put his heart and soul into this bill over the last three years. Can I also thank the constituents who contacted me, both in favour of and against this bill; the people who made suggestions and the very personal stories they shared with me.

Mr Deputy Speaker, this is very straightforward for me. Queenslanders nearing the end of their life should have greater choice about how, when and where they die. It must be voluntary, it must be assisted by medical professionals and the person must be dying. I believe the bill has adequate safeguards to protect the vulnerable. I commend the bill to the House.