



Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 2 September 2021

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Nanango Electorate, Road Safety; Clancy, Ms T

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (2.00 pm): Like many members in this chamber, I have lost friends and family members to the cruel road statistics. The latest RACQ road statistics reveal that my electorate of Nanango is the second highest region when it comes to road deaths. That is heartbreaking. There is a tragedy unfolding, not just on regional roads. Families are being torn apart. There have been 10 fatalities in the Nanango electorate between January and July this year. We had one death just last week. My condolences go to all of those families. We need to remember that those statistics only count the people who have lost their lives and not those who were injured or incapacitated in those accidents and will endure a lifetime of suffering.

There are so many roads that I could call out, but it is important that I talk about the GS Bond Bridge. The families with children who go to the Durong South State School are constantly worried about their children who must travel over the dangerous one-lane GS Bond Bridge. This is a bad bridge on a bad road—the Chinchilla-Wondai Road. It had been listed and touted by the Palaszczuk government for a \$13 million upgrade. After investigating this upgrade in QTRIP, where has the upgrade gone? It has disappeared. It has been wiped off the map. When we asked the department what was happening with regard to the \$13 million upgrade they came back with, 'It's not a priority.' The schoolchildren on the buses, the truck drivers, the mums and dads towing a van are a priority. I urge the Palaszczuk Labor government to bring this bridge upgrade back on and save more lives in my community.

I would also like to use this time to congratulate the Australian Olympic team, but especially beach volleyball silver medallist Taliqua Clancy. Taliqua grew up and went to school in Kingaroy and is the granddaughter of local residents Robert and Jocelyn Clancy. Taliqua is an amazing role model for our young regional kids. On behalf of the South Burnett community, I want to send her and her beach volleyball partner huge congratulations.

It is also important to acknowledge that Taliqua, like many Olympians, would not have been able to do what she does without the support of Ms Gina Rinehart. Ms Rinehart's sponsorship of Taliqua and indeed Volleyball Australia, the Australian Dolphins swim team and Rowing Australia has had a major impact on the Tokyo Olympics. The South Burnett is fortunate that Ms Rinehart quietly supports our community, be it with health care, Christmas lights and now beach volleyball—thank you.