



Speech By  
**Laura Gerber**


**MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 May 2021

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Currumbin Electorate, Health System**

 **Mrs GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (2.31 pm): Broken promises and big fat porkies: that is what my electorate of Currumbin has received from this state Labor government. They were promised—

**Ms PEASE:** Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I draw your attention to the unparliamentary language used by the member for Currumbin.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Ms Bush): I will take some advice on that. Member for Currumbin, that is unparliamentary language and I ask that you withdraw.

**Mrs GERBER:** I withdraw. My constituents in Currumbin were promised a satellite hospital in Tugun. That turns out to be an untruth. They were promised that first responders would always be there. That is another untruth. We deserve better from this government. Our overworked doctors, nurses and paramedics are doing their best in a broken system, but it is not sustainable and it is not our first responders' fault. They push and push to fix the health system; instead, they are told that it is all made up. This government has abandoned them.

Yesterday the health minister told this House that there is always a first responder ready to assist those in need and she used the example of Coolangatta. Well, this government has failed to provide first responders with enough resources to respond to my constituents in Coolangatta. On Sunday a 79-year-old elderly lady collapsed in the reception of a hotel in Coolangatta. She was suspected to have broken her shoulder. This elderly lady was forced to wait for two hours for an ambulance—forced to wait while lying in pain on the cold, hard tiled floor of a hotel. Help was not coming—at least not from Queensland.

The reception staff on site tried to help her. They called triple 0 three times in a desperate plea to get this woman the help she needed. The first responders on the other end of the phone tried to help her, but Queensland Labor has failed them. Our emergency services are so under-resourced that the system is at breaking point. I know it, the minister knows it, and Queensland's first responders know it. In fact on the last call to triple 0, the operator told the reception staff that their best bet was to call back and ask for an ambulance from New South Wales. Do you know how long the ambulance from New South Wales took? 10 minutes. If all of this is because of COVID, how can the health system be working fine in New South Wales but be broken in Queensland? This is not COVID's fault. The blame for this broken health system lies squarely at the feet of this state Labor government.

Last year, my community was unequivocally promised by the Palaszczuk Labor government a satellite hospital for Tugun. Yesterday in question time the Premier let slip that those satellite hospital sites have been picked. Today I table a screenshot of the interactive map from the Queensland state budget that shows the satellite hospital promised from Tugun has landed in Burleigh—another broken promise.

*Tabled paper:* Document, undated, titled 'Queensland Government Regional Action Plans Maps', depicting Southern Gold Coast Satellite Hospital locations [640](#).