




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Health System

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (2.03 pm): Yesterday we celebrated the contribution of nurses and midwives on International Nurses Day. As the daughter of a nurse, I have a mighty appreciation of the contribution they make to our community, particularly in our time of need. Can I add my voice to the chorus of so many recognising, celebrating and thanking our local nurses and midwives.

While those opposite are making a pastime of talking down our health system in this place, I would like to recognise the health professionals I recently had experience with in our local hospital, the Prince Charles Hospital. A childhood disease, perthes, at age seven led to me having a malformed hip. Over the last 20 years my hip has restricted my abilities progressively, as it developed osteoarthritis, bone spurs and cysts. Pain and chronic pain became part of my everyday life until, thanks to a strong case of parental guilt, I finally found a fantastic local GP, Dr Daniel Row. Ultimately, on 4 March I underwent a total hip replacement in the capable hands of my amazing surgeon, Dr Craig Hughes, within the clinically recommended time frames, I might add, and using the Mako robotic arm.

I recall being wheeled into the ward postoperatively and, despite being heavily medicated, a nurse greeted me with the opening words, 'Oh you poor thing, you have the same name as a politician.' I am pretty sure I replied, 'It's worse, I am the politician.' The nursing staff at the Prince Charles Hospital were world-class. I place on record my thanks to them. Also, to the surgical staff, support staff, the anaesthetists, medical imaging staff, pharmacists goes my many thanks.

The physiotherapists at the hospital were critical in building my confidence and ability, and to them I say thank you. Integrate Physiotherapy at Warner Lakes is the location of my regular treatment. Saurabh Bhojwani, Sam, my local physio, has been a lifesaver with pain relief treatment and also with rebuilding my wasted muscles and capacity postoperatively. Sadly, my local GP, Dr Daniel, has been called back to Botany Bay as a naval doctor. He is a great loss to our community and I am sure without his intervention I would still probably be struggling without intervention today.

Our healthcare system in Queensland is second to none. Even with the challenges of COVID in 2020 and the pause to the elective surgery waiting list, we have seen the Palaszczuk government put in place a fantastic contribution to support and clear that waiting list. Ours is a health system to be proud of.