



Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 September 2021

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Coronavirus, Vaccination**

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning) (9.50 am): I never thought I would have to remind a federal LNP member of parliament that they were not a horse, but yesterday I had to tell the member for Dawson that he is indeed not a horse. Members will be aware that while the member for Dawson is not a horse he sometimes acts like a bit of a donkey. I have heard that he likes the whip. He posted to his social media that he had obtained Ivermectin, the horse dewormer, to take in case he contracts COVID. It is what the internet calls horse goo. It is great at getting rid of worms in horses, but not so good for treating COVID in people, including federal LNP MPs.

The best way Queenslanders can protect themselves and their loved ones from COVID is to get vaccinated. Fortunately, Queensland Health is vaccinating record numbers every day. They vaccinated 20,928 yesterday, meaning 56.68 per cent of Queenslanders have now had their first dose and 38.33 per cent are fully vaccinated. Just last week we opened new mass vaccination hubs at the Entertainment Centre at Boondall and at Mount Warren Park in Logan. We also opened one in Rockhampton so people could get a vaccination and a pie on their way to the footy.

This is despite the fact that Scott Morrison has been siphoning off Queenslanders' vaccines to New South Wales. More than 100,000 vaccines have been redirected so far. We do not begrudge New South Wales for needing more supply faster—things down there are pretty grim—but why criticise Queenslanders for the effect it has had on our rates? Given the start Morrison gave us, we are well on the pace. Queenslanders, other than George Christensen, are ready to gallop to the vaccine finish line. I hate to be a 'neigh-sayer', but I think George Christensen is using horse paste for one last burst of attention before he is put out to pasture. Given his performance as an MP he certainly will not be put out to stud.

There should be no horsing around on the topic of vaccines. The Mackay region has below the statewide average of vaccination for COVID. The people of Dawson are sick of being saddled with George Christensen. So the only question that remains is: why the long face, George? Maybe he genuinely has worms, and if that is the case I will withdraw my objections. If Scott Morrison is serious about the vaccine rollout, he will take off his blinkers, scratch his horse Christensen and stop talking down Queensland.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Of course; of course!