




Speech By
Ali King

MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE

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MOTION

Satellite Hospitals

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (7.16 pm): I am delighted to speak in favour of the amendment before the House tonight. There is no doubt whatsoever that our health system is under pressure. That is clear, but what is also clear is that the LNP has no plan to fix it. What is worse is that the LNP are not interested in fixing it. The more pressure there is on the health system, the happier LNP members are. All they do is criticise.

Honourable members interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Pause the clock. I am having trouble hearing the member on her feet. I appreciate the time of night, but I ask everyone to keep it to a dull roar. That would be fantastic.

Ms KING: That is right: all the LNP do when it comes to our health system is criticise. They call our health workers ‘regional duds’, but it is the LNP that is trying to dud Queenslanders when it comes to health—every single day of the week. The LNP attack Labor for building hospitals, but how many hospitals did they plan and build when they were in government? It was zero. Let’s have a look at the LNP’s track record when it comes to the hospitals that people in Pumicestone rely on.

Let’s look at Caboolture Hospital, a favourite target for members of the LNP. For decades the LNP refused to build a much needed hospital in Caboolture. It took Labor to do that. When we announced our almost half a billion dollar redevelopment of Caboolture Hospital, what did they say? They said it was a political stunt and they said it was not needed. Shame! They make false claims about Caboolture Hospital every day of the week to scare our community and undermine the morale of our health workers. The member for Mudgeeraba called our health workers ‘regional duds’. I ask: does the member for Mudgeeraba consider our Caboolture health workers to be ‘regional duds’ or is that for somewhere else? When it comes to our satellite hospitals, we are building two world-leading—

Honourable members interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Again, I ask that we keep our volume down.

Ms KING: When it comes to building our two world-leading satellite hospitals that will serve my community, the LNP are desperate to talk them down, just like they talk down every piece of health infrastructure.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Kawana, if you continue to interject, I will warn you.

Ms KING: The LNP do not care about the people in Pumicestone who currently travel for hours multiple times a week to access renal dialysis. They do not care about people on Bribie who need a long-hours minor accident and emergency centre. They do not care about people on Bribie who need free hospital mental health services closer to home.

The LNP does not care about the health of Queenslanders; it only cares about political pointscoring. We have heard from the member for Currumbin, who talks about deception, untruths and trickery, and I have a very important point to make about our satellite hospital: when it comes to our Bribie satellite hospital, the LNP seems to have a very short memory. The member for Mudgeeraba likes to talk about shams, but there is some deep sham and deep hypocrisy in the LNP when it comes to our satellite hospitals. Does anybody but me remember the 2020 commitment from the member for Nanango to build what she called a 'hospital' on Bribie Island—a sham hospital on Bribie Island? If we scratch the surface, what were the services that the member for Nanango promised would go in this sham hospital on Bribie Island? Urgent care and primary care. What is primary care? Primary care is GP services.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Nanango.

Ms KING: I backed GPs every day of the week. I fought for—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. The member for Nanango is warned under the standing orders.

Ms KING: I fought for more GP services against the federal government for my community, but GP services are not a hospital. Primary care is GPs. It is not hospital services. It is not renal dialysis. It is not hospital mental health services. It is not chemo. It is not postoperative hospital care. The LNP loves to criticise our satellite hospitals which will provide the hospital services our communities desperately need, but it conveniently forgets that it tried to dud Bribie Island with a sham fake hospital that had no hospital services. It is a sham, it is a deception, it is a trickery. Those opposite call our health workers regional duds, but they are trying to dud Queenslanders. They sack health workers. They promise fewer doctors, fewer nurses, fewer health workers. The health system is under pressure, but the LNP expects Queenslanders to believe that it will fix it with its cut, sack and sell plan.

Mr Mander interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Everton, you are warned under the standing orders.

Ms KING: The LNP is completely untrustworthy on health. It talks down our health system, it backstabs our health workers, it attacks our hospitals and our hospital infrastructure and it never planned a single hospital. It is trying to dud Queenslanders on health, but it is the LNP that is the dud.

(Time expired)