




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Kingaroy Hospital

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (6.12 pm): On Tuesday, 9 August a record crowd of just over 200 people attended the South Burnett health crisis meeting, including community members and, very importantly, nurses—heaps of them. They all wanted to share their stories about how bad the Queensland health system is and what it is doing to the lives of people who live in and around the South Burnett. I want to thank the shadow minister, Ros Bates, and the leader of the LNP, David Crisafulli, for coming to Kingaroy to listen to my community's concerns. There are huge concerns in relation to this.

Shannon spoke about the lack of security at the Kingaroy Hospital. She and her nine-year-old son were left in a very dangerous situation when a violent patient was in the emergency department. Lee spoke of her terrible experience during her husband's final days in palliative care in Kingaroy. I give a big shout-out to Nick Castle, who drove from Emerald to Kingaroy to attend that 20th town hall meeting. He did that because he needed assistance to get his son's operation put back on the list as he had just been taken off it. These are horrible stories.

The meeting was an opportunity to support our stressed and overworked doctors and nurses and to shine a light on the problems that they face in Kingaroy. Those people opposite do not understand. They have stopped listening, if they ever were listening. I have had 12 nurses in my office crying because this government refuses to support them. It refuses to give them enough staff.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I hear the education minister. This tin eared government does not understand the effect when a young—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Order, members.

Ms King interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: When the member for Pumicestone sits in this House and says that I hate nurses that is an absolute insult and I ask the member to withdraw. I take personal offence and I ask her to withdraw.

Mr POWER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member for Pumicestone made no comment. I was sitting right next to her. She did not make any comment. I did not hear her say it.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Everyone will cease quarrelling.

Mr POWER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to apologise. I may have got that incorrect. I did not hear it.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Logan. Member for Pumicestone, I did not hear the comment but the member for Nanango has asked that you withdraw. Do you withdraw?

Ms KING: I withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. That allows us to move on.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I am exceedingly proud of my daughter Lucy who is a graduate nurse working in Blackall right now. She is volunteering to go to the Birdsville Races so that if people are injured or hurt she will be there to help. I am proud of her.