




Speech By
Ali King

MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE

Record of Proceedings, 14 September 2023

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Pumicestone Electorate, Satellite Hospitals

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (2.53 pm): Every single day people in Pumicestone tell me that our Caboolture Satellite Hospital is just what the doctor ordered for our community. In the first month alone, over 1,800 people received urgent care for fractures, falls, infections and eye injuries among other things. Most of them are in and out again in under two hours. Glenn from Elimbah said—

Last night I ended up at the new Caboolture Satellite Hospital. The staff were amazing and the entire process was seamless from triage right through to treatment and departure. Can't recommend enough.

Our satellite hospitals are bringing care closer to home and taking pressure off our busy EDs. I cannot wait for our Bribie Island satellite hospital to open next year. I am proud to be part of a government that invests in the health infrastructure and the health workers that Queenslanders need most.

What a contrast to the LNP. Right from the start, the LNP in Pumicestone criticised our Satellite Hospitals Program. The very day that the Premier and I stood up together to announce our Bribie Island satellite hospital, a prominent local LNP member phoned me to attack it. What was her complaint? Instead of a 100 per cent free public hospital, the Pumicestone LNP member wanted us to fund a private hospital that only people with private health insurance would be able to access. As a proud Labor member, I will stand up for our community getting a 100 per cent free public satellite hospital over a private hospital every single day of the week.

What do the LNP stand for when it comes to health? We know their dirty plans because they have shown us, and now they have told us over and over again. We have heard the LNP shadow minister for health, the member for Mudgeeraba, call our regional health workers duds. We have heard the LNP shadow minister for transport describe sacking 14,000 health workers as the tough love Queenslanders needed. Now we have heard their secret plan to cut health worker wages with the LNP's shadow assistant minister, the member for Burnett, saying 'it's time we broke the back of unrealistic employee entitlements'.

The leader of the LNP needs to come clean on which health workers he plans to break the back of. Will the LNP break the backs of our hardworking nurses, like the 732 local nurses they sacked from my area the last time they were in government? Will they break the backs of our paramedics all over again? Will the LNP cut the wages and conditions of our doctors and get them marching in the streets like they did last time? The LNP's only plan for health is to cut, sack and sell. They have told Queenslanders what they will do, and Queenslanders need to believe them. The LNP hate our Satellite Hospitals Program, and if they are elected to government our Bribie Island satellite hospital will be the very first on the chopping block to cut, sack and sell.