




Speech By
Charis Mullen

MEMBER FOR JORDAN

Record of Proceedings, 21 February 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Greater Springfield

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (7.09 pm): In late November, our government announced that biopharmaceuticals company, Aegros, would build a new \$352 million manufacturing facility in Greater Springfield thanks to support from the Palaszczuk government's Invested in Queensland program. Aegros, currently based in Sydney, will establish its global headquarters and a new advanced production facility at BioPark Australia, bringing more highly skilled jobs to our state. Aegros estimates that its facility will create 348 long-term jobs across its first four years of operation. The company aims to use its unique advanced technology to develop and manufacture lifesaving therapeutic blood products. Therapies produced from the plasma in blood can help fight infection or disease such as lupus and type 1 diabetes, promote blood clotting, prevent shock and assist with post-surgical recovery. The Springfield facility will have the capacity to process one million litres of human plasma per year. Australia currently imports almost half of the essential plasma and blood products used to develop biopharmaceuticals, so this new facility will position Aegros to meet the needs of the domestic market. Aegros also aims to capture some of the \$19 billion global export market for therapeutic plasma products. I recently met with the proponents about their plans and look forward to supporting their project being progressed in Springfield.

This is not the only company seeing the potential of 'health city' in Greater Springfield. In the last few months, I have had the privilege of helping to open not one but three new medical health businesses in our community. It was an absolute pleasure to help officially open the new premises for Neta Care Holistic Medical Services in Brookwater. CEO Emeka Edwin-Nweze and his team bring an incredible and refreshing approach by offering a holistic approach to health care in our community. Neta Care not only offers medical services but also offers NDIS, DVA, aged-care, rehabilitation and child and youth services.

I was also pleased to attend and assist in the opening of Australian Veteran Health Services. AVHS is providing vital services that assist our veterans in that most important period—their transition from military life to civilian life. With such a large and growing defence and veteran community, I am very grateful to Dr Andrew Cronin, Dr Steven Smith and Dr Harsharan Singh, who all share a lived experience of being veterans themselves, for establishing their growing and much needed practice in our region.

Finally, congratulations to Dr Sundhar Narayan and family on the establishment of the Elite Cutis cosmetic clinic in Springfield Central. I was honoured to cut the ribbon on their new and beautiful clinic. 'Elite cutis' means 'rich skin' which is the aim of Dr Narayan's work and I am confident he will have plenty of new clients seeking his expertise, potentially me included.

The decision of each of these companies to establish their headquarters and clinics in Greater Springfield is not only a real vote of confidence in our region but also the beginning of more highly skilled jobs for young people in my community in the growing health and biomedical industries.