




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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MOTION

Hospital, Performance

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (5.53 pm): It gives me great pleasure to follow the minister for—what is the new job now—minister for housing. One of the other crises that we have in this great state. We have a health crisis, we have a crime crisis and we have a housing crisis. One of the crises we have in health is the fact that the nurses do not have houses to live in, in all of these regional towns. Why? Because this government has been in for eight long years. Guess what? It has been a hard, tough month for this government. We have now seen the new health minister, in all of her glory, get shot down in flames—

Ms Bates: Bellyflop.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I will take that interjection—a complete bellyflop. Not just an hour ago, I was standing on my feet talking about the horrendous nature of the Palaszczuk government in this state. I will get back to Callide in a minute—so please remind me to do that—but what I want to talk about is the Wide Bay health system. We now have a new health minister who is trying to hoodwink Queenslanders by saying she is releasing more data than the former health minister. We know about the failed, embattled former health minister, the now re-issued Attorney-General—thanks for being in the House, Attorney-General—but we know, for all of the former health minister's faults, we used to get more data about code yellows and tier 3 issues with hospitals under the former health minister. This health minister is just giving us averages.

Let's have a look at some figures for the Wide Bay. This is just for three months. Of that, 30 per cent—91 days in three months—we have seen those hospitals were at tier 3. At Bundy Hospital, there were six tier 3 escalations lasting for longer than 81 hours, totalling 488 hours. At the Hervey Bay Hospital—I promised the member for Hervey Bay I would talk about his failures—there were seven tier 3 escalations lasting for 38 hours or more. Let me say this: it is important to note that it is not the fault of the hardworking nurses, doctors and allied health people in those hospitals. It is not the fault of the hardworking ambos who are sitting on the ramps at all of our hospitals. It is not their fault. It is because the Palaszczuk government does not know how to manage the health system.

I will refer to Callide because we have some good people from the Callide electorate in this chamber right now, up in the gallery. I want to acknowledge Don Stiller, the newly minted OAM! Hear, hear! Here is someone who has spent his entire life working on behalf of the community. He has made sure that all of his family know that we have to work on behalf of our community. Dad, that is why I am here today. Thank goodness Mum is not trying to give birth to Ross, Tim, Jackie and me at the moment, because if you live in the Callide electorate, good luck. I mean, honestly! To all those mums from the Callide electorate, thank goodness for the new member for Callide, because he continues to talk about this government's failings. How long has Chinchilla Hospital been on bypass? 2,000 days, over five

years. Maternity on bypass—what an absolute shame! What about Biloela? How many days? 384 days. The new health minister tries to tell us she has fixed the maternity crisis in this great state. What a furphy! It is still on bypass. Now, Gladstone has been on bypass for 339 days—

An honourable member interjected.

Mr Bleijie: It is my Biloela tie.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I will take that interjection from the deputy while I draw breath. I want to quickly talk about another really important issue and the failures of the Palaszczuk government in the health system. We have been asking, demanding and requesting on behalf of the good people of regional Queensland for telestroke. What an important piece of kit that would be for our regional hospitals, not like renal dialysis at Longreach that we are still waiting for—I am not sure for how many years; not like the mental health beds promised how many years ago for Rockhampton. Thirty-two beds promised around 2016 or 2018. The government want us to cheer them on because they have just re-announced them. A re-announcement of a re-announcement does not fix the health system. Member for Keppel, we cannot wait to make sure we get those seats back. The member for Bundaberg is definitely gone. The member for Hervey Bay—gone! We can only fix the health system with an LNP government.