



Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Organ and Tissue Donation; DSQ Brew With a Crew

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (6.23 pm): I would like to thank the member for Bonney for speaking about that amazing research going on. Congratulations.

I am really delighted to be standing up here again this year with my Gift of Life T-shirt, and I thank the Speaker for letting me wear this. It is a really important program. Each and every one of us has an opportunity to participate in this sensational program, which is about organ and tissue donation. It can make a difference in a person's life. One donor can save up to seven lives. It is an opportunity for people to really leave a legacy. It is a really great way to save people's lives. Having a conversation with the members of your family about becoming an organ donor is a worthwhile cause because it will make such a difference.

Last weekend on a really hot and muggy Sunday morning along the Esplanade we went for a walk together with the Gift of Life crew. There were about 100 who came for the walk. There were a lot of competing walks on that Sunday. It was really great to see so many people wanting to stop and have a chat and hear what the sea of flowers walking along the waterfront was about and what Gift of Life means. It is exactly that. I had the pleasure of meeting a couple of parents and a parent and a partner of a donor recipient, and the difference it has made in their lives and the lives of their family members is astounding. It is a really simple thing to sign up to register as a donor. All you need is your Medicare card, then go and visit Gift of Life or DonateLife and sign up. I would encourage all members here today to please do so. Engage with your communities, because it will make the world of difference. We need to have more people making donations.

Whilst the majority of Australians support organ and tissue donation, only one in three—or 36 per cent—are registered to be a donor, which is really low compared with the rest of the world. You have to opt in to be a donor. Please, I encourage you to do so. There are currently around 1,800 Australians on the waitlist for an organ transplant, so give it some thought.

I would like to finish on a completely different note. This morning I hosted Down syndrome Queensland for DSQ Brew With a Crew. It was a really great morning. Our local barista extraordinaire, Shay, whipped up coffees for all of the members of the House and staff. I acknowledge the great work DSQ does in supporting those in our community and their families who live with Down syndrome. The coffee can be bought either ground or whole beans, and it was really well supported by the wonderful Crema Coffee Garage.