




Speech By
Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2023

MOTION

Liberal National Party, Health

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (2.36 pm): It is a pleasure to follow the shadow Treasurer who mentioned our landmark Health and Hospitals Plan which is delivering better health care right across Queensland through better health services, through more good jobs for our frontline health staff and through our infrastructure Big Build which is delivering state-of-the-art health care right across Queensland, including in Ipswich where it is delivering a major upgrade to the Ipswich Hospital that will see 200 new beds, an expanded emergency department and a new 50-bed acute mental health facility that is nearing completion. We have already opened the satellite hospital in South Ripley that is taking care of our local community. We have another 174 public beds on the way in partnership with the Mater at Springfield and we are committed to building a new residential rehabilitation facility.

All of this is at risk under the LNP. There is no greater threat to health services in the state of Queensland than an LNP state government. We know this because last time they were in government they sacked 4,400 health workers and cut vital healthcare services. This is because they do not respect our hardworking health staff and they do not respect the jobs that they do. Why else would their shadow health spokesperson call our regional health workers duds? Why else would the member for Burnett say it is time we broke the back of unrealistic employee entitlements when it comes to health workers? How is this backing the hardworking nurses and midwives at the Bundaberg Hospital that provide services to constituents when they are ill? He wants to cut their pay and conditions, their sick leave, their overtime and their maternity leave.

At least he had the good graces to apologise, unlike the member for Mudgeeraba when she called our regional health workers duds. The puff piece—the little profile piece—in the *Courier-Mail* about the member for Mudgeeraba was an absolute beauty. I congratulate her on kicking the durries. Well done on getting match fit for the election. The member, however, dropped a couple of bombs by insisting that the Newman government's record on health is something that she would aspire to, promising widespread cultural change within Queensland Health, putting everyone—

(Time expired)