



Speech By  
**Rob Molhoek**


**MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2023

**MOTION**

**Liberal National Party, Health**

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (2.51 pm): I would back the member for Mudgeeraba over the member for Waterford any day. Yes, we have heard members on that side of the House criticise the member for Mudgeeraba for the number of times she has been thrown out of the House. Yes, yesterday she was suspended from the House for a day, but that is because she is passionate and finds it difficult to sit there and listen to the drivel that gets dished up day after day week after week in this House by the Labor government of this state. This Labor government is absolutely out of touch with the everyday needs of Queenslanders in respect of health needs. We have seen their failures listed time and time again. The Queensland Audit Office has provided multiple reports about their failure to plan for the workforce, IT failures, systemic failures within the health system, ambulance ramping and address seriously First Nations health issues across the state. Quite frankly, with the way this state is going in terms of labour force planning, particularly in rural, remote and regional Queensland, it is going to become entirely a FIFO state.

Last week I had the privilege of attending the Remote Australians Matter Conference in Charleville. Who was there from the Labor Party? No-one was there. Last week, 200 delegates gathered in Charleville from across rural and remote Queensland for a conference to address the health concerns of Queenslanders and who was there from the Labor Party? Not one single person was there. At the end of the conference I just happened to be standing in the main street of Charleville and a couple of police officers wandered into the coffee shop where I was patiently waiting for a coffee. I asked the police officers whether they had been invited to attend or had the opportunity to participate in the conference. Do members know what did they say? They were denied the opportunity to attend the conference because the police department would not cover the \$150 registration fee for them to attend. They went on to say that Queensland Health workers were told they were not allowed to attend the Remote Australians Matter conference.

Across this state we have seen a diminishing workforce. In the opening remarks of the conference they talked about the fact that the workforce is diminishing. In fact, across the rural and remote Queensland workforce in this state and within allied health services, more than 10 per cent of positions are vacant. I spoke with directors of medical services and nursing services at that conference and they told me that on many occasions they are struggling to find people who want to take on these jobs unless they are allowed to fly in and fly out.

*(Time expired)*