



Speech By  
**Ros Bates**


**MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 September 2023

**MOTION**

**Health Workers**

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (4.23 pm): If that is the minister's audition for premier, to gee up the backbench, it did not work. The minister can thank her colleagues—the Deputy Premier and the Treasurer—who threw her under the bus to make sure she never becomes the premier. We all know that it takes more to run Queensland Health than swanning around the state, taking soft portrait mode photos with the Deputy Premier's professional photographer, to heal the Queensland health crisis. We know that the minister is barely up to this job, but she is already auditioning for the next job. Make no mistake: the member for Waterford learned her trade at the knees of Jackie Trad. I am not going to get in the gutter with the member for Waterford, because the member for Waterford would beat me with experience every day of the week. Let's talk about some of the issues in the motion.

**Ms Fentiman** interjected.

**Ms BATES:** I do, and the LNP supports and thanks the Queensland Health frontline workers. I have family members who are frontline workers. I have family members who are doing triple shifts. I have family members who were doing that before COVID. They are exhausted, and the minister is out of touch if she does not realise that. Let's go to some of the other issues in this motion. We will talk about—

**Ms Pease** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Order, member for Lytton.

**Ms BATES:**—Queensland Health staff. Let's just say how misleading this is. The minister knows it, and the former minister knows it, because I put out a media statement on 27 October headed 'Desperate D'Ath misleads parliament'. It states—

The embattled health minister has deliberately and disgracefully misrepresented me in parliament. The health minister admitted today that the Palaszczuk Labor government knowingly employs doctors in regional Queensland who have had restrictions on their registrations in other states. Remember Dr Jayant Patel? I am not okay with doctors who are chased out of other states being rolled out the welcome mat in regional Queensland.

My comments were in response to a question to the Labor government regarding suspended Mackay urologist Dr Daryl Stephens. The Labor government has no respect for regional hospitals, health workers or communities. Our regional health workers are heroes and the only dud is the former health minister, who must go. Queenslanders deserve so much more than a desperate health minister out of her depth. That was your first one.

Obviously you need to get your media team to check what is going on Twitter, because you obviously missed the memo. I will read it out to you, Minister.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Comments will come through the chair.

**Ms BATES:** I will read the letter to the minister personally in case she missed it. It states—

Dear Shannon Fentiman,

Your media release is totally and utterly incorrect. It is deliberately misleading and you know that.

The Opposition has categorically promised doctors, nurses and midwives pay and conditions will improve under an LNP Government.

You have already personally been informed of this.

**Dr MacMahon:** This is embarrassing. Oh, my God!

**Ms BATES:** Keep yelling, member for South Brisbane. You will probably both be on Karl tomorrow as well. It continues—

The LNP has continually affirmed our support for our hardworking doctors, nurses and midwives who are struggling under the chaos and crisis of your Labor Government.

Despite knowing this you have issued a highly misleading media release.

I encourage you, in the name of integrity, to withdraw your media release given you issued it knowing your statements were categorically untrue.

I suggest you spend more time fixing the Queensland Health Crisis that you are overseeing and less time leaking to the media against Premier Palaszczuk because you want her job.

Your desperate attempts to spread fear and distract from your own failings are quickly becoming your calling card.

For the sake of Queenslanders who rely on our health system, please concentrate on the job you have.

Kind regards,

Ros Bates, RN MP.

We know the chaos and crisis that has been caused by this Labor government.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Apologies, member. I was having difficulties hearing you over the interjections from both your own side and the government side.

**Ms BATES:** We know that the chaos and crisis has been under a long-term Labor government. We have seen failed health minister after failed health minister and now we have Queensland's worst ever child safety minister auditioning to be the next premier of this state. Minister, do the job that you have been employed to do and fix the health crisis that you have caused.

*(Time expired)*