



Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Biomedical Industry**

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure) (9.44 am): Mr Speaker, 25 years ago Queensland set out to become a world-leading biomedical hub. The strategy has evolved over time, but the vision has remained the same—to become a state where knowledge and innovation drive economic growth to improve prosperity and the quality of life for all Queenslanders. Now our biomedical sector is booming and is set to grow even further. It is already worth \$2.1 billion to our annual economy and it employs more than 12,000 people.

Last week I had the privilege of joining some of our greatest minds at the BIO International Convention. Queenslanders were out in force at BIO 2023, which attracted more than 14,000 industry figures from across the globe. Delegates from 50 companies, universities and research institutions joined me to talk up Queensland's success in biomedicine, setting our state up for the next 25 years of opportunity. Queensland is fast becoming a global research and innovation centre thanks to the Palaszczuk government's investment in state-of-the-art facilities, talent attraction and partnerships. We are home to more than 300 research centres, institutes, research hospitals and innovation precincts. Everyone who visits remarks on the collaboration between our universities, so it was little surprise that more people wanted to tap into our market.

Atlanta's Emory University, the University of Queensland and Sanofi announced plans to join forces to set up the Queensland-Emory vaccine centre, bringing together the best and brightest minds to accelerate the development of vaccines. Partnerships like these position Queensland to take a greater share in the world's multibillion dollar biomedical sector and build on investments the Palaszczuk government has made to grow this high-value industry.

I am pleased to advise the House today that Professor Ian Frazer, an industry leader in the biomedical field, will continue shaping our bright future in biomedicine as the Queensland government's new Biomedical Adviser and Chair of the Translational Science Hub Statement of Cooperation Steering Committee. Professor Frazer is recognised globally for his contribution to medical science, the most significant being the creation of Gardasil, the cervical cancer vaccine. Because the Gardasil vaccine was invented in Queensland and we were the first to embrace it, Queensland is projected to be the first place in the world to eliminate cervical cancer.

Professor Frazer's incredible work has led to thousands of lives saved, and I have no doubt his guidance in this area will mean more groundbreaking developments will come out of this great state. He will get straight to work chairing the steering committee overseeing the implementation of the statement of cooperation for Queensland's translational science hub. The Translational Science Hub

Statement of Cooperation was signed by Sanofi, the Palaszczuk government, the University of Queensland and Griffith University in December, committing to work together to establish a world-first mRNA research centre here.

On behalf of the Palaszczuk government, I signed a statement of intent with Sanofi to further explore the manufacturing of vaccines here in Queensland. This would put Queensland at the forefront of vaccine development globally. It is this Palaszczuk government doing what good governments should do. We are investing in our experts and boosting intergenerational prosperity by building high-value industries, and the sky is the limit. We are not about to change course. We are going to keep building on this strong foundation. Only the Palaszczuk Labor government is sticking to the plan to deliver better lives for the next generation of Queenslanders.