



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**


**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

---

Record of Proceedings, 26 October 2023

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Ward, Mr K**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (4.03 pm): Today I would like to give a special acknowledgement to Mr Kevin 'Hoppy' Ward, who recently retired from the Southport Courthouse after achieving a remarkable 55 years in the Queensland Public Service. I am sure we can all agree that it is a substantial and noteworthy period of time to serve our great Queensland community.

Mr Ward commenced his lifetime of public service at the young age of 15 when in 1968 he took a position in the then works department. It was about six years later that he transferred to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, where he has remained since. Throughout his decades long career, Kevin has worked at a number of Queensland courthouses, including Cloncurry, Brisbane and Coolangatta, but he spent the majority of his employment at the Southport Courthouse. His accomplished service was undertaken in many areas of the court, but he always preferred a frontline role at the courthouse counter which allowed him face-to-face interaction with the public and the occasional opportunity to show his vocal support of the Maroons during State of Origin time.

Mr Ward—Hoppy, if I may—is a fine example of the committed and hardworking court staff who provide vital services to the Queensland community. Hoppy, you will be dearly missed not only by your colleagues in the registry but by the entire Gold Coast legal community. Hoppy, I wish you all the best in your retirement and a sincere thank you for the contribution that your 55 years of service to the Queensland community has made to our great state.