




Speech By
Jessica Pugh

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

Record of Proceedings, 7 March 2024

MOTION

Palaszczuk, Hon. A

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (3.43 pm): I rise proudly to speak to the motion today about our former premier Anastacia Palaszczuk, who was many things to many people. To all of Queensland and to all of Australia she was the first woman to be elected three times. I know that many women on our side of the House probably would not be in this place without her support and encouragement.

I want to touch on the work that she did highlighting women's reproductive and menstrual health, which she was a real trailblazer in speaking openly about. Anastacia spoke openly about her endometriosis and her fertility challenges. She also spoke openly about the hurt and the loss and the physical challenge that that caused for her and for her family. Anastacia paved the way by being brave and open for thousands of Queensland women to be able to share their stories and spark change—change that we are going to see in the Women and Girls' Health Strategy.

Other speakers in the House have already observed that you cannot be what you cannot see. Anastacia worked so hard to set an amazing example for all women in Queensland and, indeed, for all women throughout Australia, including for my daughters, Allegra and Elyse, both of whom have known her for a very long time. I am obviously very proud that Elyse has 'Anastacia' as her middle name. It was a decision I made in consultation with the Treasurer's brother. I called my good friend Milton Dick. I said, 'I'm thinking the name will be Elyse Anastacia.' He said, 'If I were a girl, my mother would have called me Elyse, so you'll be naming the baby after me and the Premier of Queensland.' I said, 'I'll take that. I think that is an auspicious name.' She is a lucky girl to be named after two such wonderful people and an amazing leader.

(Time expired)