



Speech By  
**Joan Pease**


**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 September 2025

**HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2)**

**Second Reading**

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (5.44 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the Health Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2025. The amendments contained in it affect the Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2024, the Public Health Act 2005, the Queensland Mental Health Commission Act 2013 and the Radiation Safety Act 1999. Whilst the changes are largely technical, they nonetheless touch on important areas of health regulation, workforce safety and public health preparedness. I plan to make a short contribution tonight.

One part of the bill clarifies the requirement around the regulation of pharmacy business ownership. This is intended to ensure the act functions as designed. However, issues were raised during the committee process by key stakeholders. Pharmacists expressed concerns that the definitions used in the legislation are not comprehensive enough, particularly regarding the concept of 'material interest' and how ownership structures are considered. Pharmacies also emphasised the need for definitions that reflect the services they actually provide. We share these concerns, and we will continue to support small and locally owned pharmacies which play a central role in delivering community health care across Queensland and in my bayside electorate. I am a very proud supporter of our local community pharmacies who provide an incredible standard of care to bayside residents, and I take a moment to say thank you for your kindness and your professionalism. It is very much appreciated.

I note the concerns raised by pharmacists regarding definitions in the Pharmacy Business Ownership Act and we urge that these be considered in future amendments. Legislation must support local pharmacies and maintain robust systems of health data and oversight.

The bill further amends the Public Health Act to permit equipment and materials to be left at collection sites for mosquito sampling so that sufficient sample sizes can be obtained for the detection of the Japanese encephalitis virus. This measure enables public health officials to conduct effective monitoring of mosquito populations and respond to emerging risks.

This is particularly important to my electorate with the recent identification of the Japanese encephalitis virus. I did write to the Premier and cc-ed in the health minister on 28 March this year to inquire about the possibility of free vaccinations for the residents of Hemmant and workers in the precinct, which is in the Port of Brisbane area, when we first heard of the tracking. I table a copy of that letter for the benefit of the House.

*Tabled paper:* Letter, dated 28 March 2025, from the member for Lytton, Ms Joan Pease MP, to the Premier and Minister for Veterans, Hon. David Crisafulli, regarding availability of vaccination from mosquito-borne virus found in Hemmant [1284](#).

Also for the benefit of the House, I am yet to hear back from either the Premier or the health minister. What does that say? I guess the residents in a long-term Labor-held seat do not matter because to date we have not received a response. Just saying!

Given the nature of the debate, the number of contributions and the ongoing matters of relevance raised, it is my view that there has been sufficient debate on the second reading of the bill and it is time to move on. I therefore move: that the question be put.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Lister): I am not convinced that there has been sufficient debate. I think there are still plenty of people on the speaking list, and I am not prepared to put that. Member for Lytton, have you ceased your contribution?

**Ms PEASE:** I have moved a motion.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I am not prepared to put that motion. It is at the Speaker's or Deputy Speaker's discretion as to whether that happens.

**Ms PEASE:** Okay. I will continue.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Well, actually—

**Ms PEASE:** You asked me if I have finished my contribution and I have not.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I will take some advice and I will take it in silence, thank you.

**Ms McMillan:** What a rabble! What an absolute rabble!

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Who said that?

**Ms McMILLAN:** That was me. It is an absolute rabble.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Mansfield! You will withdraw that remark.

**Ms McMILLAN:** I withdraw.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I warn you under the standing orders. I said I would take advice in silence and that was an unnecessary provocation and disrespect to the chair. Member for Lytton, you have the call.

**Ms PEASE:** Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. I look forward to hearing promptly from the Minister for Health or perhaps the Premier in respect of concerns about my residents raised in my correspondence of 28 March.

Leadership requires courage. Queensland has a proud record of bold reforms. I recall when we first began the journey of reducing tobacco use. We were the world leaders and we still are today. With those bold reforms we were world leaders, basing decisions on evidence-based research. Let's not forget John Howard's landmark gun reforms. These measures were not easy but they were the right thing to do to save lives. Like the member for Redlands and the member for Barron River, I want to talk about protecting the people of my community and the people of Queensland. The comments of both the member of Barron River and the member for Redlands resonated with me and, no doubt, with all in the chamber. That is why broader reforms to protect loved ones must be bold. Being bold on pill testing is no different.

**Dr ROWAN:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

**Ms PEASE:** It is not about supporting drug dealers; it is about protecting young Queenslanders.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Lister): Member for Mansfield.

**Ms PEASE:** It is about evidence-based—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Mansfield! I am sorry—member for Lytton. Forgive me. I got the member's seat incorrect, but when I rise and when I tell the member on their feet to cease their contribution, they will do so. Leader of the House, what is your point of order?

**Dr ROWAN:** My point of order is on relevance. There have been a number of rulings by yourself and other Deputy Speakers in relation to remaining relevant to the long title of the bill. I would submit to you that the member for Lytton is not doing that. Given the ongoing nature of this, under standing order 247 I move—

That the honourable member for Lytton be no longer heard.

Division: Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

**AYES, 48:**

**LNP, 48—**Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Field, Frecklington, Gerber, Head, Hunt, B. James, T. James, Janetzki, G. Kelly, Kempton, Kirkland, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Lister, Mander, Marr, McDonald, Minnikin, Molhoek, Morton, Nicholls, O'Connor, Perrett, Poole, Powell, Purdie, Rowan, Simpson, Stevens, Stoker, Watts, Vorster, Young.

**NOES, 29:**

**ALP, 29—**Asif, Bailey, Bourne, Boyd, Butcher, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Howard, King, Linard, Martin, McCallum, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Nightingale, O'Shea, Pease, Pugh, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Smith, Whiting.

Pair: Hutton, Bush.

Resolved in the affirmative.