



Speech By  
**Jonty Bush**


**MEMBER FOR COOPER**

---

Record of Proceedings, 3 April 2025

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Children, Hormone Therapy**

 **Ms BUSH** (Cooper—ALP) (2.37 pm): On 19 February I wrote to the health minister seeking an urgent meeting with families from my community who have been directly impacted by the health minister's decision to pause publicly funded gender-affirming care to minors in Queensland. That was 43 days ago and these families are still waiting for a meeting. In fact, our office is still waiting for a response from the health minister. That is appalling. It is appalling to have Queenslanders who have an urgent medical need waiting for more than a month for just a response from an elected member and a minister.

This week we celebrated the Trans Day of Visibility, and I thought what better way to bring visibility to this House than to share the views of impacted families from my electorate directly to the minister for his benefit. Lexi, who is 17 years old, said—

Gender affirming care, including testosterone blockers and HRT gave me the chance to live my life authentically as the person I was always meant to be. If I had been denied this treatment, I can guarantee you that I would not be alive today.

Peter and Kelly, parents to a trans daughter, said—

How very sad and inhumane of you to pause puberty blockers and HRT. You are not our child's medical team and you do not get to dictate or withhold their treatment.

A mother I will call Kate said—

I would like to understand why Mr Nicholls believes there exists a group of people to whom healthcare does not apply. Cisgender kids access these medications every day. They are tried, and tested, and safe.

Kelly, a mum of a transgender daughter, said—

Without the option of commencing hormone therapy it is very likely that she would have given up on her will to live.

Matt said—

Decisions like yours send a message to the community that trans people don't belong. It makes the bullies feel right.

Xaria said—

Gender-affirming care saved my life. I wouldn't be here without it—and neither would many others. Being trans is hard. Most people don't know what it's like to fear walking down the street.

I have numerous stories here—from Cinta, Leah, Erica, Kristie, Sean. I will table them all, including the response I have from the Anglican Church Archbishop of Brisbane, Jeremy Greaves, who has also submitted correspondence and is still waiting for a meeting. In fact, he is still waiting for a response from the minister himself.

*Tabled paper:* Bundle of correspondence relating to the receipt of gender-affirming care [309](#).

Another quote states—

The LNP wants a Queensland that is free from discrimination, a place where individuals are respected and all are free to live safely within their communities. We are cognisant that many Queenslanders have been disrespected for their lived identities. Their stories are powerful and discriminatory behaviour should be called out.

These are the words of the now health minister during the 2023 debate on the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill in relation to identity documents for trans people. Minister, let's put the clinicians back in charge and restore these vital, life-saving services to vulnerable Queenslanders.

*(Time expired)*