



Speech By Hon. Patrick Weir

MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

Record of Proceedings, 12 June 2025

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Longman, Mrs IM

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, Mrs Irene Longman was elected to the Queensland parliament on 11 May 1929 and was only the third woman to be elected to an Australian parliament. Mrs Longman faced numerous challenges as the only female member of parliament. She was not allowed in the parliamentary dining room, nor were there female toilets for her to use.

I wish to advise the House that as part of the 100 Women in Parliament celebration I have approved a proposal for a bronze sculpture to be commissioned to honour Mrs Longman's service as the first woman elected to the Queensland parliament. The proposed bronze sculpture is to be life sized and to depict Mrs Longman eating at a table. It will represent the fact that being a woman she was never allowed to use the parliamentary dining room and was required to take her meals on the verandah. I wish to advise the House of this proposal prior to the Parliamentary Service commencing a procurement process.