



Speech By
Hon. Patrick Weir

MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

Record of Proceedings, 16 September 2025

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Members of Parliament; Languages Other Than English

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, members of parliament are entrusted with the important role of advocating for the many diverse communities within Queensland and to serve as positive role models. As Speaker of the House, I aim to empower all members to voice the views of their constituents whilst also maintaining the highest standards for the contributions made by all members within the parliament.

Whilst English is the official language of the Queensland parliament, there are many precedents of contributions to debate being in another language. However, I need to emphasise to all members that it is the practice of members intending to speak in a language other than English to advise the Speaker prior to making the contribution in the House and to additionally provide a translation so the Speaker is aware of what is being said and thus able to ensure that what is being said is in order.

I have received correspondence from the Leader of the House about the member for Sandgate's contribution in a language other than English during the adjournment debate on 28 August 2025. I am informed that the member did provide to the parliamentary attendants a piece of paper with a translation which was taken to Hansard and later that evening a translation was also forwarded to me which has been verified. I accept that the failure to provide a translation to the Speaker in advance of the contribution was a matter of privilege suddenly arising. I understand the legitimate apprehension held by members in the circumstances. However, I do not intend to take further action in respect of the matter, except to treat it as an opportunity to educate all members about the appropriate practice moving forward. I table the correspondence in relation to this matter.

Tabled paper: Correspondence relating to the member for Sandgate, Ms Bisma Asif MP, speaking in a language other than English [1227](#).