



Speech By
Rebecca Young

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2)

Second Reading

 **Mrs YOUNG** (Redlands—LNP) (5.03 pm): The Health Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) is a bill that looks technical on the surface—clarifying pharmacy business rules, aligning Queensland with national public health notification requirements, improving mosquito-borne virus monitoring, streamlining appointments in the mental health space and enabling safe disposal of radioactive waste. What it represents is actually far greater: it is another step forward in the Crisafulli government's commitment to restoring health services after 10 years of decline under Labor.

For 10 months now we have been delivering practical reforms and real investments, and Redlanders are seeing the benefits. This bill sits alongside our Hospital Rescue Plan, our Surgery Connect program, our commitment to reducing ambulance ramping through an expanded transit lounge at the Redland Hospital and our investment in more frontline workers. Together, these reforms are putting patients first.

I want to bring this back to what matters most: people. Just last week my own son had a fall playing school sport. Within less than an hour he had been seen by a doctor, had an X-ray and had a break in his shoulder confirmed. As a parent, that gave me enormous peace of mind. I rely on the incredible medical professionals in the Redlands, as so many families do. I want to take a moment to thank our doctors, nurses, paramedics, allied health staff and administrators. They are doing a tremendous job. Good government means backing them every step of the way. That is what this bill and our broader reforms are about.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I am loath to interrupt the member on her feet because I understand her sentiment, and I share her admiration for doctors, nurses and other health professionals, but I put it to you that Deputy Speakers this afternoon have been very explicit in terms of drawing members back to being relevant to this bill. I would ask you to ensure the member is specifically relevant to the bill, consistent with previous rulings.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Redlands, could you give me a quick run-down on how what you are speaking about is relevant to the long title of the bill and the points in the explanatory notes?

Mrs YOUNG: Absolutely. Like most of us, we are speaking about the healthcare system. I can skip ahead and get to the main points, if you like, if that would help the member for Springwood.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: That would be appreciated. Thank you.

Mrs YOUNG: As I was saying, there are many reforms underway. In just 10 months we have shifted the conversation from excuses to solutions, and Redlanders can feel the difference. This bill will deliver pharmacy reforms to protect patients by ensuring businesses selling medicines are properly regulated and staffed by pharmacists so that families know they are getting safe and reliable care when they step into a pharmacy.

The new provisions for the monitoring of the Japanese encephalitis virus will give health authorities better tools to detect mosquito-borne risks before they become outbreaks, an especially important safeguard for communities across Queensland. By aligning public health notifications with national best practice, we will reduce red tape for health providers while maintaining strong protections for Queenslanders. Streamlining the Queensland Mental Health Commissioner's appointment process will ensure continuity of leadership in this critical area. Broadening approval pathways for the safe disposal of radioactive waste will ensure Queensland is meeting national safety standards. Each of these may be modest in isolation, but together they form part of a clear pattern: the strengthening of our health system, making it more responsive, more accountable and more sustainable.

I represent a community that cares deeply about health—families, young people, seniors, those with special needs—and all of them deserve to know that when they need care they will not face endless delays or uncertainty. For too long they were let down, but in just 10 months this government has shown what is possible when the focus is on outcomes. This bill is another step forward. It backs our health workers, strengthens our hospitals, improves patient safety and ensures Redlanders and all Queenslanders have a health system that will work when they most need it. That is what good government does, it is what the Crisafulli government is delivering and we are just getting started.