

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

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**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER
FOR EDUCATION**



MEDIA RELEASE

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Lauga pledges to grow our health services

Thousands more doctors, nurses, paramedics and allied health professionals will be hired by the Palaszczuk Labor Government to deliver better health care for Central Queenslanders.

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said Queensland is experiencing the fastest population growth in the country, and Labor will continue to invest in our hospitals and frontline services to keep pace with increasing demand.

“We have already committed to continue building up our frontline health workforce by employing an additional 5,800 nurses and midwives, 1,500 doctors, 1,700 allied health professionals and 475 paramedics by the next state election in 2024.

“And we will keep working with the Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union to develop a model for expanding mandated nurse-to-patient ratios in other parts of our hospital and health system such as operating theatres, emergency departments and maternity wards.’

Ms Lauga said in this campaign Deb Frecklington and the LNP need to find \$25.5 billion to pay for their election promises – and they aim to achieve a budget surplus within four years, despite the global economic downturn resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“To achieve these kinds of savings they will need to cut in the order of 30,000 jobs, including 16,000 in Queensland Health.

‘Our hard-working nurses and midwives don’t deserve that.

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“The LNP is a risk to our ongoing health response to the pandemic and our plan for economic recovery that Queenslanders can’t afford.

“The Palaszczuk Labor Government agrees with the QNMU that nurses and midwives are frontline workers, and our plan is to grow – not cut – frontline jobs.”

She said the Palaszczuk Labor Government has worked closely with the QNMU since being elected in 2015 to rebuild frontline health services after they were “decimated” by the Newman-Frecklington LNP Government.

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