



# Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Parliament of Queensland

## Media Statement

Thursday, 27 October 2016

### WIDE BAY-BURNETT YOUTH PARLIAMENT PARTICIPANTS CONGRATULATED

Students from 12 schools in Bundaberg and the surrounding regions participated in the Wide Bay-Burnett Youth Parliament which was held at Brothers Sports Club in Bundaberg today. The Speaker of the Queensland Parliament, Hon Peter Wellington MP, officially opened proceedings of the youth parliament this morning and then chaired its first and closing sessions.

Mr Wellington congratulated all of the students and schools that participated in the Wide Bay-Youth Parliament, saying that the event provided all with a valuable experience of how Queensland's democratic processes work in their lives.

"On behalf of the Speaker and the Parliament, I thank the youth members from across the Wide Bay-Burnett region for all of their hard work in preparing for this event and for having their say on the issues that matter to them.

"It has been a great privilege to preside over and observe the Wide Bay-Burnett Youth Parliament and I hope that the students participating today will be inspired by this Youth Parliament and take on an even greater role in Queensland's democratic process," Mr Wellington said.

Today's event at the Brothers Sports Club in Bundaberg saw 96 students participating as Youth Members. In addition, there were approximately 50 students, teachers and parents in attendance observing the event.

Mr Wellington said that the Youth Parliamentarians debated two motions, the first on the introduction of healthy eating measures in schools and the second on education and employment opportunities for students. Students then had the opportunity to speak on matters of importance to them and their community.

"The Youth Members did a great job, speaking from the heart and raising many important issues that face young people from across the region," Mr Wellington said.

"Both I, and the Member for Burnett, Mr Stephen Bennett MP, who helped chair today's debate, were impressed by the standard of speeches and the passion shown," he said.

The participating schools were:

- Avoca State School
- Bundaberg Christian College
- Goodwood State School
- St Patrick's Primary School
- Bargara State School
- Bundaberg West State School
- Rosedale State School
- Woongarra State School
- Branyan Road State School
- Gin Gin State School
- St Joseph's Primary School
- Xavier Catholic College

The Queensland Parliament organises and facilitates youth parliament events across Queensland each year.

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