



The Honourable Tim Nicholls MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

16 OCT 2025

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C-ECTF-25/19950

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliament
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: ClerksOffice@Parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil,*

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 4280-25, tabled in Parliament on 16 September 2025, in relation to Members of the House declaring their vaccination status against COVID-19 and the flu.

Immunisation is a safe and cost-effective way to protect individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases such as influenza (flu) and COVID-19. It is an essential public health tool in reducing the demand on our hospital and health system and improving health outcomes for Queenslanders.

Upon coming into office, the Crisafulli Government was advised that the former government failed to fund a free flu vaccination program in 2025. These missing funds resulted in the free flu vaccination program ceasing on 30 September 2024.

As a result of this failure, the Crisafulli Government allocated \$25 million for the free flu vaccination program in 2025. This year's program saw more than 1.74 million Queenslanders roll up their sleeve and get the jab, including myself.

In addition, the Crisafulli Government will also fund an Australian-first, needle-free, flu immunisation program trial for children aged two, three, and four years in 2026. Research has shown that six in 10 parents experience distress when thinking about vaccinating their child against flu, and many young children have a phobia of needles. This trial will provide an alternative option to help parents, and their young children overcome these uptake barriers.

I note that medical records are confidential and protected by privacy legislation. The private medical matters of individuals are a matter for those individuals and their treating clinicians.

Thank you for raising this important matter with me and I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

Tim Nicholls MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
Member for Clayfield