



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PROOF**

**STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

**Queensland: Bushfires**

**SPEECH**

**Monday, 16 September 2019**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

<b>Date</b> Monday, 16 September 2019	<b>Source</b> House
<b>Page</b> 59	<b>Proof</b> Yes
<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Responder</b>
<b>Speaker</b> O'Brien, Ted, MP	<b>Question No.</b>

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**Mr TED O'BRIEN** (Fairfax) (13:36): Father Ned Ryan, an Irish oblate priest who had an enormous impact on me as a child, once said to me, 'You should thank God not just for the things that have happened but also for the things that have not happened.' I stand in this chamber today to thank God and to thank the Queensland Police Service, the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, the Rural Fire Service and the countless volunteers and organisations across the Sunshine Coast for everything they did to combat a wall of fire that blazed across the northern end of the Sunshine Coast—the northern end of my electorate and the southern end of my colleague Llew O'Brien's electorate, Wide Bay. Not one life was lost. Only one home was fully destroyed. Sadly, Pamela Murphy, 89 years of age, lost that home. Yet life was spared, and that was because of our volunteers, our emergency service workers and our police force. Thank you, and God bless them all.