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## **KERRY SHINE MP**

State Member for Toowoomba North

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### **Digital diversion device reduces patient anxiety**

A remarkable technological innovation, developed right here in Queensland, is helping sick Queensland kids facing painful medical procedures.

The Queensland Government is rolling these devices out across Queensland so that this innovation is available sooner and closer to home for Queensland families.

The hand-held DITTO, a new digital diversional therapy tool developed by Brisbane-based company Diversional Therapy Technologies reduces anxiety-related pain, by engaging a child in games, stories and movies, all of which are interactively stimulated under the child's control to distract them during a wide range of often upsetting medical procedures.

Member for Toowoomba North Kerry Shine, welcomed the impact these machines are making in Queensland's hospitals.

Mr Shine said as a parent myself, he knew that there is nothing harder than having a sick kid or a child in pain.

"That's why the Queensland Government has invested in bringing this technology to the bedside sooner so that we can provide comfort and support some of the most vulnerable patients in Queensland and their families.

Mr Shine, praised the extraordinary difference this technology is making for Queensland kids in hospital.

"The DITTO device has been clinically proven to significantly lower pain and anxiety during medical procedures. DITTO means less time is spent trying to calm and soothe young patients.

"There is nothing more important than keeping our kids healthy and bringing them comfort when they are in pain. This will make a massive difference for kids and their parents during such a stressful time,

"The device is appropriate for children of all ages with a wide variety of medical conditions.

"It also offers fun modes of interaction through touch screen and motion sensor technology. The DITTO is also waterproof which makes it highly versatile in a hospital setting.

"Queensland Health clinical staff caring for sick kids in Toowoomba do an amazing job.

“This device is just an extraordinary piece of innovation and I’m thrilled at the comfort and care it will bring to kids and their families right here in Toowoomba and across Queensland,” Mr Shine said.

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