

**Economic Development  
Committee**



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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Government told to use regional job and skills plans, work closer with local government**

A Parliamentary Committee Report tabled today recommends that government needs to use regional jobs and skill planning, promote business innovation and reduce red tape to create jobs for Queenslanders.

“Queensland is such a diverse state. The challenge of creating jobs in Mackay is different to the challenge on the Gold Coast. Regional planning can also give local governments a greater role in creating jobs in their area,” said Chair of the Economic Development Committee, Evan Moorhead MP.

The committee’s report makes 28 recommendations to create jobs.

The committee recommended schools partner with industry to provide students with practical skills for employment.

“By working with industry, schools can help young people develop the skills for new and emerging industries. Queensland must ensure our schools are training students for a 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.” Mr Moorhead said.

The committee recommended the government support universities in regional areas developing business incubators and accelerators.

“A key benefit of universities involvement in business incubators and accelerators is that they promote business innovation and help keep university graduates in regional areas where skills are needed,” said Mr Moorhead.

Additionally, regulation imposes significant costs on businesses that may prevent them from employing people.

“The Queensland Government is currently reviewing the regulatory burden but the committee wants the government to make sure that the amount of regulation doesn’t increase again once the review is completed.”

Copies of the committee’s report are available from [www.parliament.qld.gov.au/edc](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/edc) or from the secretariat on (07) 3406 7486.

Ends – 26 November 2009