



Speech by

BRUCE DAVIDSON

MEMBER FOR NOOSA

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PRIVILEGE

Queensland Small Business Council

Mr DAVIDSON (Noosa—LP) (9.32 a.m.): I rise on a matter of privilege. Yesterday during question time in this House, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition asked of the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development a question in relation to the Queensland Small Business Council about the apparent lack of commitment of this Government to not only the council but also the small business sector of Queensland. In response to the question, the Minister for State Development and Deputy Premier stated—

"I have written to the members asking them to again indicate their interest in serving on the Small Business Council. Although I have not received too many as yet, I am expecting responses to that invitation."

Yesterday I took the opportunity of telephoning six of the council members, including the chairman, Mr Geoff Murphy, and to my surprise I discovered that not one of those six members I spoke to have received any correspondence from the Minister. So it would appear that the Minister has not in fact written to members of the council at all. The six members of the Small Business Council to whom I spoke personally have not heard from the Minister since his appointment.

The Minister for State Development and Deputy Premier has misled this House. During the last sitting, I had cause to bring to the attention of this House another matter of privilege involving the Premier, and now I ask for this matter involving the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development to be brought to the attention of the Members' Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee.
