



Speech by

**Hon. P. BRADDY**

**MEMBER FOR KEDRON**

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Hansard 18 November 1998

**TRADING (ALLOWABLE HOURS) AMENDMENT BILL**

**Hon. P. J. BRADDY** (Kedron—ALP) (Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations) (10.06 p.m.), in reply: I thank those honourable members who have contributed to the debate. This legislation was initiated by a deputation made to me by the Retailers Association of Queensland, the Shop Distributive and Allied Employees Association, and the Queensland Retail Traders and Shopkeepers Association. I thank them for bringing the matter to my attention. The first person who mentioned it to me and drew my attention to it was the member for Barron River. As a result of her representations, I had some knowledge of the problem immediately. We then arranged to meet with the organisations I have just detailed. I thank the member for Barron River and the organisations who were the first people to come to me with the problem.

I also thank the member for Clayfield, not only for his support tonight but for his forthright support immediately upon contact being made and discussions occurring between my office and him. He recognised the problem immediately, saw there was a solution and offered to be part of the solution and to ensure that that solution was brought about as quickly as possible. I appreciate his alacrity in the matter and his support.

In relation to the matters raised by the member for Gladstone, I recognise that there is a problem. The member for Fitzroy had also brought that matter to my attention. The particular association that was mentioned, the QMHA, had also written to me. I am in the process of replying to that letter. I can point out that the issue of tenants being forced to trade can be addressed under the Retail Shop Leases Act. Tenants can vote democratically to change the core hours, that is, the hours that landlords can require tenants to open. Any change requires a 75% vote. It should be pointed out to tenants that that process is open to them.

When one introduces legislation such as this, one does very well to please 98% of the people. I think that is what we have done here. I point out that the major hairdressing organisation is the Hairdressing Federation of Queensland and not the QMHA. To date we have not heard from that organisation. That does not in any way put down what the other associations are saying.

Through this legislation, we have provided a three-day holiday for the vast majority of people. We have given workers the opportunity to decide whether or not they wish to work on the Monday, even at the good penalty rates. Between the various organisations, the Government and the Opposition, we have come up with the best possible solution. I thank all members for their support.

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