



Speech by

Mr J. HEGARTY

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

Hansard 21 July 1999

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PAYMENTS

Mr HEGARTY (Redlands—NPA) (10.29 a.m.): I bring to the attention of the House a concern that a number of my constituents have raised. It is an issue that reflects no credit on a Government that is forever telling us that it is out there fighting for the battler. The vehicle registration planned payment system is a facility offered by Queensland Transport under which vehicle owners can budget to prepay their vehicle registration by \$30 or \$50 instalments to ensure their registration renewal when it falls due. The scheme—which battlers, people on low incomes, pensioners and single parents have found most useful—has been scrapped. From 1 July no more voucher books are being issued. The only concession is that people with existing voucher books can continue to use the system until their vouchers are used up.

Under the new arrangement, voucher customers are being told that they can use the six-monthly payment option. The Government might view this as a concession, but it may be well too much money for a battler to outlay in one sum. It also attracts a fee for service, adding to the annual cost of vehicle registration. I am concerned that the failure of the bureaucracy to continue a service that helps the battler may lead to more people breaking the law by driving unregistered vehicles.
