



Speech by

Mrs J. GAMIN

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Hansard 27 May 1999

GROUP TITLES

Mrs GAMIN (Burleigh—NPA) (10.25 a.m.): I refer to an article in the property section of the Courier-Mail on 24 February this year and the launch of a book titled Community Title Schemes which explains the ins and outs of group titles and which deals with the impact of the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997 on unit owners. Brisbane resident Ruth Tarlo has been able to achieve what the Department of Natural Resources has been incapable of producing, that is, a simple plain English explanation of some of the complexities of the legislation which controls units and bodies corporate and some of the answers to questions commonly asked by unit owners.

For the past year or more, I have been pursuing the Department of Natural Resources for such a booklet—a replacement for the popular publication that the former Lands Department distributed under the old legislation. Unit owners have beaten a path to my door clamouring for this long-promised publication. Some of them will be dead before the department gets its act together. I have purchased a copy of Mrs Tarlo's book for my office reference and shall be encouraging unit owners in my electorate to do likewise. The cost is \$24.95 plus postage. I understand that many orders have already been received since the launch a couple of months ago in Brisbane. The book has been commended by the Property Owners Association and the REIQ.

The Department of Natural Resources, having fallen down on the job that it was supposed to do, has been overtaken by private enterprise. I note that Mrs Tarlo decided to self-publish her work because mainstream publishers were reluctant to take the risk of putting it out. With 250,000 unit owners in Queensland, I hope that the book will be an enormous success for Mrs Tarlo, and I congratulate her on her enterprise in producing this much-needed handbook.
