



Speech by

Hon. KEN HAYWARD

MEMBER FOR KALLANGUR

Hansard 23 November 1999

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEVELOPMENT

Hon. K. W. HAYWARD (Kallangur—ALP) (6.52 p.m.): It is a pleasure to rise in this debate to speak to this amendment which congratulates the Beattie Government for delivering record levels of investment to Queensland through the creation of the Department of State Development, which continues to drive growth and job creation for this State. The Department of State Development is continuing and forcing the move to develop an enterprise culture in Queensland. What the Department of State Development is able to do is position the State for a coordinated approach to investment, a coordinated approach to attracting new industries to Queensland and a coordinated approach to the development of industry within Queensland. As I said, that effectively moves Queensland towards developing an enterprise culture.

In Queensland so much of our business is small and medium-sized business. But what is important is that 90% of private employment in this State is by small business. Queensland is the small business engine of Australia. That is important because, again, it is about developing that enterprise culture. A lot of times there are people in this State with a good idea, and certainly they have a lot of energy. Our view on this side of the House is that these people need and deserve some support from the Government towards translating their idea into a commercial reality for themselves so that they are able to not only make some money for themselves but also employ other Queenslanders.

We had a great scheme in Queensland called NIES, the National Industry Extension Scheme, which was run by both the State and the Federal Governments. When the Federal coalition was elected, they knocked that scheme off. Under the stewardship of the now Opposition leader, the State contribution was cut back as well. Again, with the coordinated approach that has been able to be developed through the Department of State Development, we have now been able to put the Queensland industrial development scheme together. This is a scheme that has a budget of \$30m over four years. It is an important scheme because it is able to help small business. It is able to help them with the things that they are unable to get support to do, provides them with a bit of money so they are able to do things like feasibility studies and helps them with the marketing of their product.

This is real assistance going to real business. In this case, it is of course Queensland business. In my own area, four companies have been helped by this scheme. One of them is the Tasman Sheepskin Factory. I know the proprietors very well.

Time expired.
