



Speech by

**Mr N. ROBERTS**

**MEMBER FOR NUDGE**

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Hansard 25 May 1999

**PEOPLE AND PLACES PROFILE, ZILLMERE**

**Mr ROBERTS** (Nudgee—ALP) (10.15 a.m.): The recent People and Places Profile of Growing Disadvantage in Queensland by the Queensland Council of Social Service briefly projected the issue of poverty into the media spotlight. Today I wish to raise the plight of a proud community in my electorate identified in that report. The Zillmere community has recently benefited from enhanced funding from the Labor Government for a million-dollar sport and community centre and for upgrades and enhancements to public housing. On behalf of the people of Zillmere, I again place on the record my thanks to Sports Minister Bob Gibbs and Housing Minister Robert Schwarten for their commitment to this area.

However, it is clear that more needs to be done. The QCOS report identified Zillmere as the 34th area of most disadvantage in the State of Queensland and in the 10 most needy areas in Brisbane. This ranking is arrived at by examining a range of factors, including income, education, unemployment and the number of rented dwellings. In 1995 a Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing report also identified Zillmere as the area in most need of community infrastructure development in Brisbane.

Today I draw to the attention of the House that the obligation to Zillmere has not been discharged. Government infrastructure and services to the area can be enhanced. Improvements can also be made to local policing, education and health and family services. Zillmere is a close-knit community which is proud of its spirit and its place. It is also a community in need and we must continue to work on addressing that need. I acknowledge the support and commitment of the Beattie Labor Government in assisting the community of Zillmere and Queensland generally. However, as the QCOS report reminds us, more still needs to be done.

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