



Speech by
**Mrs NITA
CUNNINGHAM**

MEMBER FOR BUNDABERG

Hansard 3 March 1999

PORT OF BUNDABERG

Mrs NITA CUNNINGHAM (Bundaberg— ALP) (10.29 a.m.): I bring to the attention of the House a momentous occasion for Bundaberg—the arrival of the first passenger ship at the port of Bundaberg on Monday. The relatively new ship, the Fuji Maru, carries 138 crew and up to 600 passengers. The ship was welcomed by a huge crowd of officials, residents, schoolchildren, choirs and bands. Throughout the day, 12,000 people visited the port, and some were lucky enough to tour the ship.

More than 200 passengers spent the day in the city and district, bringing a welcome boost to our economy. The ship left that night amid a lot of excitement, music, singing and a very vocal wish to return to Bundaberg. The Fuji Maru is just the first of many passenger ships that could visit Bundaberg in the future, and we recognise the enormous potential of these visits for our tourism industry and for jobs.

Full credit is due to our port authority, which worked so hard to achieve this goal—just one of the many positive projects being actively pursued by the Bundaberg Port Authority. Full credit is due also to the Bundaberg Tourism Board for arranging such a wonderful welcome—a welcome the Japanese visitors will long remember and one that reflects well on Bundaberg and Queensland.
