



Speech by

SHAUN NELSON

MEMBER FOR TABLELANDS

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PROPERTY AGENTS AND MOTOR DEALERS BILL

Mr NELSON (Tablelands—IND) (10.53 p.m.): I, too, have concerns about many issues raised in this debate on the Property Agents and Motor Dealers Bill. I will not raise them again, as I am sure the Minister will cover the issues raised by all members of this House.

Like the member for Lockyer, I cannot see any reason to oppose the Bill. I certainly have many questions. As those questions have been asked by other members, I will not prolong the debate by going over them again. There are many questions to which I would like answers, and I am sure the Minister will address those in her summing-up.

I want to reiterate the points that have been made in particular by those on the Government side of the House in relation to marketeering and unscrupulous traders, whether they be real estate agents or motor traders. These operators represent a very small proportion of the marketplace. It is not the case by any means that the majority of car yards undertake unscrupulous practices and try to rip people off. In many cases in north Queensland, car yard dealerships are family-owned companies. Most of them deal on a reputation of excellence, but of course there are backyard traders who try to make a quick buck from people and leave them in the lurch, as we saw last night on the news. The parts of the Bill I found most appealing were the sections addressing that issue. The Bill tries to guarantee that, if a person buys a car and a week later it starts falling to bits, they will not be stuck with the bill. Once again, there are a very limited number of people trying to make money from those circumstances.

I have never sold cars or dealt in property, but I have spoken to many constituents who have. Most of the people in my electorate who are involved with these kinds of businesses said that they had nothing to fear from the Bill because they do not do anything wrong. As far as they could tell, the Bill is not going to affect the way they do business because they already comply with the Bill in their normal day-to-day trading. However, there were a few points raised here and there. As I said, those points have been raised by other members and I will listen to what the Minister has to say. Suffice it to say that at the moment I cannot see any reason not to give my support to the Bill. I have not seen the Opposition's amendments. If there are any, I have not seen them. I will look at them if and when they come up and take it from there.
