



Speech by

Hon. ANNA BLIGH

MEMBER FOR SOUTH BRISBANE

Hansard 12 December 2001

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Student Education Profiles

Hon. A. M. BLIGH (South Brisbane—ALP) (Minister for Education) (9.45 a.m.), by leave: I am pleased to inform members that the anxious wait of more than 38,000 year 12 students for their senior certificates is almost at an end. The Queensland Board of Senior Secondary School Studies is responsible for ensuring that student education profiles are compiled and packed ready for collection and mail-out through Australia Post. The massive packing exercise began on Monday, and I inspected its progress yesterday. The mail-out will begin this week, with students expected to receive their results next Monday. For students interstate and overseas or any other students who cannot access their profile, the board has set up a telephone hotline for them to call and get instant access to their results. I understand that this is an exciting but sometimes stressful time for students. That is why everything is being done to ensure that students receive information with a minimum of fuss.

State wide some 38,440 students will receive senior certificates. Of those, 27,810 will be eligible for an overall position, or OP, and field position, FP, statement. This year a total of 629 students will receive OP1s, the highest ranking. This is the top 2.3 per cent of the state's students eligible to receive an OP. This is a major achievement and an improvement on last year when there were 612 OP1s. In my view, the Smart State has just got smarter. The student education profile that students will receive on Monday will include two documents—the senior certificate and the tertiary entrance statement.

Mr Quinn interjected.

Ms BLIGH: Those opposite are knocking young people who are out there achieving. They cannot help themselves. This information allows potential employers and tertiary institutions to assess school leavers on a wide range of skills and subject knowledge. I am also pleased to tell members that a record number of almost 22,000 Queensland high school students completed vocational education and training, or VET, courses in 2001. The VET in Schools Program continues the Beattie government's 2010 vision for education in Queensland. In fact, Queensland is leading the nation in school based vocational training, with 60 per cent of year 11 and 12 students participating in one or more nationally recognised vocational education training courses.

Vocational education and training is invaluable to students either going on to further study or for those aiming to make an effective transition to work. To help achieve this end, the government has introduced a flexible curriculum that allows students to undertake real work based learning and practice while finishing their senior studies. Under the 2010 vision, the aim is to increase completion rates from the current figure of around 68 per cent to 88 per cent by the year 2010. The state government will continue to expand the opportunities available to all students to improve their post-school pathways either through further tertiary study, training or work. I take this opportunity to wish all our young school leavers a successful and fulfilling future.
