



Speech by

Mrs LIZ CUNNINGHAM

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

Hansard 17 October 2001

ELECTORAL [TRAVELLERS' ADVANCE VOTES] AMENDMENT BILL

Mrs LIZ CUNNINGHAM (Gladstone—Ind) (9.05 p.m.): I speak to the Electoral (Travellers' Advance Votes) Amendment Bill as one who initially opposed it. After discussions with the member for Nicklin I saw what he is trying to achieve. It is my understanding that this bill is intended for people who are quite sure that they intend to vote for the incumbent member. The member for Nicklin explained that it is for those who are very keen to see that their vote is effective and that their vote goes to the person they know is going to stand for the election in the electorate they are eligible to vote in.

There are a number of flaws in the proposal. They have been outlined by previous speakers and they will be outlined further by forthcoming speakers. However, the intention of the bill is to give those people who intend to travel an opportunity to cast a vote for a candidate they know. In most instances that is an incumbent candidate. People do not want their vote to be lost or wasted. They want an opportunity to support somebody they know. On that basis I support the proposal.
