



Speech by

Mr P. PURCELL

MEMBER FOR BULIMBA

Hansard 20 June 2001

LEGACY TRUST FUND BILL

Mr PURCELL (Bulimba—ALP) (4.54 p.m.): I wish to say a few things about the Legacy Trust Fund Bill. I commend the minister for its introduction. It is great that the minister is taking these funds that have sat in a trust fund for 100 years and giving them to people who deliver those services at the coalface, if you like, and ensuring that those funds are used for the people for whom they were intended. I am sure that we are going to get a lot more bang for our bucks with those people delivering these services from the funds, which will be put to very good use.

I draw to the attention of the House—and I know the minister would already realise this—the fact that the Australian Building Construction Employees and Builders Labourers Federation has assisted blind people in this state and nationally for years. It has donated guide-dogs that assist blind people. Our members have been very aware of assisting people who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Recently a fundraiser was held at Whites Hill. All of the building industry got together to raise funds for the local ambulance. They raised \$45,000 to purchase a new mini ambulance that can be taken to major functions, football games and so forth. Some money was raised over and above what was needed for that ambulance and that was donated to buy and train guide-dogs. That was organised by the Builders Labourers Federation.

Some 3,000 people attended on that day. A great time was had by all. It gave workers a chance to get up close and be friendly with their employer mates and talk about things that they possibly do not get an opportunity to talk about on the job from time to time. They were able to have a beer together, and their children, wives and so forth socialised.

Mr Johnson: Four or five beers, not a beer!

Mr PURCELL: There was beer consumed. I will put it that way. There were free ice-creams. They could not eat all of the ice-creams. There were enough for everybody. Honourable members should have seen some of these big, tough, burly construction blokes with ice-creams in one hand and a beer in the other.

I would like to support this bill. I thank the minister for her forethought, for bringing this before the House and for tidying up this amount of money and seeing that it gets into the hands of those people who need it most. I commend the bill to the House.
