



Speech by

Hon. T. M. MACKENROTH

MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH

Hansard 22 March 2001

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HIH Insurance

Hon. T. M. MACKENROTH (Chatsworth—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Sport) (10.18 a.m.), by leave: Last Thursday, HIH Insurance and its controlled entities, including FAI and CIC, were placed in provisional liquidation. This had the potential to affect many Queenslanders because claims against FAI under personal insurance policies such as house and contents and motor vehicle comprehensive policies were at risk of not being able to be paid until the value of HIH and FAI assets had been realised. However, today I table in the House a letter from the managing director of Allianz Australia Ltd, Mr Terry Towell. In part, it states—

For all FAI, CIC, WMG and HIH customers with a current Home, Private Motor or CTP policy, Allianz Australia will pay claims arising from those policies. Also, all claims related to policies current at 1 January 2001 will be paid, even if the policy is no longer current.

In other words, people who did have policies current at 1 January 2001 with FAI are still covered and will not need to replace their policies. I am sure this news will provide many Queenslanders with peace of mind and I thank Allianz Australia for their support.

This also provides security to any Queenslanders who have lodged claims and are waiting for them to be processed, as long as those claims relate to policies which were current at 1 January this year. However, if there are any cases where action is still pending from non-CTP policies that were no longer current at 1 January this year, those claims are in the hands of the provisional liquidator.

In relation to compulsory third-party personal injury claims, I would like to reassure Queenslanders that all CTP claims under FAI Insurance will be honoured by either Allianz Australia or the government through the Nominal Defendant, irrespective of whether the claim relates to a current or expired policy. In relation to any delays that have occurred, I can advise that the Nominal Defendant will be able to reissue cheques for settled claims by mid next week as soon as the legal situation has been resolved with the provisional liquidator. The Nominal Defendant has also had discussions with the Law Society on the new arrangements and with Allianz Insurance on interim arrangements for claims management.
