



Speech by

CHRIS CUMMINS

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Hansard 9 May 2002

BRISBANE MARKETS BILL

Mr CUMMINS (Kawana—ALP) (3.42 p.m.): It is indeed a rare gift some members possess to put an insomniac to sleep. We should realise that the registered owner of the site, the Brisbane Market Corporation, and its predecessors the Brisbane Market Authority and the Brisbane Market Trust did not obtain all of the required town planning and building approvals for a substantial portion of development and construction of works on the site. BMC and its predecessors operated in good faith on the assumption that it had a legislative immunity from the application of state town planning and building legislation. Approval was mistakenly sought from the relevant minister responsible for the approval, construction and development by the state and state authorities. This bill will deem that all development and building construction undertaken at the site prior to the commencement of the act was lawfully approved.

I believe it was Henry Ford who said that a business that makes nothing but money is a poor kind of business. A few decades ago my mother in fact worked as an assistant auditor at the Brisbane Markets, so my family has had a connection. The Brisbane Markets are not only a major source of employment and job creating businesses but also a major supplier for fruit, vegies and ancillary products for the region. One of the many family businesses that operate there is Fruitlink Pty Ltd. Lindsay and Leanne Calvert are friends of mine. Recently I spoke to them about various issues of concern. They, like probably all businesses, want certainty over their future and their investments. Family companies such as Lindsay and Leanne Calvert's Fruitlink Pty Ltd are what make Queensland a great state. They and their three offspring are proud Queenslanders, as are Tom and Lee McNamara, Leanne's lovely parents. Family employment, business and investment and borrowings will benefit by the Beattie Labor government giving certainty to industries such as those that operate at the Brisbane Markets. They will be in control of their own destiny. Therefore, I commend the bill to the House.
