



Speech by

**CHRIS CUMMINS**

**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Hansard 14 May 2003

**MOTOR ACCIDENT INSURANCE AMENDMENT REGULATION [No. 1] 2003**

**Mr CUMMINS** (Kawana—ALP) (12.27 p.m.): In speaking against this disallowance motion, I will start by touching on the background to the compulsory third-party, CTP, scheme levies and administration fees. The compulsory third-party scheme levies are designed to provide a cost-effective means of contributing to costs associated with the delivery of services relevant to the CTP insurance scheme. The Motor Accident Insurance Act 1994 provides for the collection of a hospital and emergency services levy, a nominal defendant levy, a statutory insurance scheme levy and an administration fee. The levies and administration fee are required to be fixed by regulation for each financial year and are calculated on a flat fee basis relative to the applicable insurance class.

This state coalition in opposition continues to attack our emergency services and our government's well documented, clearly enunciated position in genuinely trying to improve the plight of Queenslanders who may, sadly, be involved in an MVA, or motor vehicle accident. This opposition contains mainly failures and leftovers from the Borbidge days. Queenslanders are awake to their inabilities, as they were in 1998 and 2001. We as a government need to provide community services to our residents. It is no secret that the conservatives wish to continue the push, as we saw last night in the federal budget, towards normal services being out of reach to all but their very rich friends.

Education and health are a priority of this Beattie government. All I have heard from the opposition—and I include the alleged Independents—is praise for our federal government. Their silence towards and lack of criticism of the Howard government should, hopefully, condemn them. This opposition has not learnt from the last state election in 2001. It promised the world without giving any commitment as to how its hollow promises could be funded. When a political party holds office its members must sometimes make decisions that are unpopular, otherwise basic services cannot be delivered to the people we represent. I cannot support this disallowance motion.