



Speech by

**JEFF SEENEY**

**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

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Hansard 10 September 2003

**LAND ACQUISITION AMENDMENT BILL**

**Second Reading**

**Mr SEENEY** (Callide—NPA) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (10.27 a.m.): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

This is the second bill that will enshrine in law our charter of property rights. I seek leave to incorporate my second reading speech in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

This Bill like the Private property Protection Bill will enshrine in law a charter of property rights that will be the basis for greater security and fair dealing between successive Queensland Governments and private property owners.

The reasons for the Bill is to ensure an upfront, clear set of principles exist to be followed when assessing compensation for landowners faced with State Government resumption of their land.

This bill aims to ensure landowners faced with State Government resumption of their land are made aware as soon as possible that their land is to be resumed and the date at which the land is needed for government purposes.

This bill will also ensure compensation provisions for State Government resumptions on their land are clear and take into account factors such as, market value for the property including any land devaluation caused by an expectation that the land could be resumed.

Special knowledge of the land gained by a landowner over time including the carrying capacity of the land for crops or stock, and appropriate cropping and management systems for the land.

Also personal cost to the landowner of moving from the land which includes costs involved in finding a replacement property including legal fees and stamp duty on the replacement property including all relocation costs including stock, machinery and household effects.

Reasonable cost of independent valuation and legal advice incurred because of the Government acquisition. Any unintended taxation consequences incurred such as capital gains tax.

The erosion of property rights without adequate and reasonable compensation because of State Government legislation is one of the major issue affecting primary industries today. Right now many primary producers in this state feel the financial investments they have made on their properties could be taken away without any compensation at the stroke of a pen.

We have a duty to restore confidence back in the rural sector, that if their property right is taken away adequate compensation payable to the landowner

That is fair and reasonable and I commend the Bill to the House

Debate, on motion of Mr Robertson, adjourned.