



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 6 June 2007

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Victorian Passenger Train Tragedy

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.43 am): The Victorian passenger train tragedy has affected all Australians. Bearing in mind that our parliament is sitting, on behalf of all members I put on the record the condolences of this House and the Queensland community, which we extend to the families affected by the tragic passenger train accident in Victoria.

The Melbourne-bound passenger train was on a level crossing on the Murray Valley Highway near Kerang when a truck crashed into it at 1.40 pm yesterday. I understand that 11 people have been reported killed and 23 injured, five critically and six with moderate injuries. Police fear the death toll may rise as three others are still missing.

Queensland has had its fair share of disasters over time, such as Cyclone Larry and others. We know only too well the shock and grief that the Victorian community will be feeling in the aftermath of this horrific accident. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.