



Speech by

Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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GREEN ARMY

Mr RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (11.45 am): The Bligh government's Green Army initiative is providing young job seekers with opportunities to gain paid employment and to learn new skills. Recently, the Bligh government announced the creation of more than 260 funded green traineeships across Queensland. Five of those green traineeships will be funded in the Moreton Bay region and young job seekers from the Morayfield state electorate will be able to apply for these positions. The funding will be provided directly to the Moreton Bay Regional Council for the purposes of employing the five green trainees. Those five green trainees in the Moreton Bay region will work on a range of local environment projects, including the rehabilitation of the region's natural areas and the revitalisation of local green spaces.

Many people are feeling the effects of these tough economic times. In particular, young people are finding it difficult to gain employment during the global financial crisis. That is why the Bligh government is providing real and effective support to young unemployed people through the Green Army initiative. The green traineeships offered through the Green Army initiative will provide young job seekers with 12 months paid work and a valuable training opportunity to improve their skills base and their future employment options. These traineeships are geared towards young people who do not have any tertiary qualifications. The green traineeships will provide these people with a nationally accredited tertiary qualification and firsthand work experience. I encourage young people from the Morayfield state electorate to apply for these positions. The Bligh government's Green Army initiative is a three-year, \$57 million program that will create 3,000 jobs through 2,300 paid work placements and 700 green traineeships.

Queensland's Green Army initiative is part of the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program and highlights the Bligh government's commitment to protecting, supporting and creating jobs around Queensland and for the people of the Morayfield state electorate.

(Time expired)