



Speech by

## Fiona Simpson

MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE

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### DRIVERS' LICENCES, FEE INCREASES

**Ms SIMPSON** (Maroochydore—LNP) (11.52 am): Yesterday I tabled an e-petition of 75,000 Queenslanders who are having their say because they are fed up with the costs that this Labor government has foisted upon them—75,000 angry Queensland motorists who have been hit with increasing fees. Already in the last 12 months we have seen two petitions that combined listed more than 200,000 Queenslanders protesting against the increase in registration costs in this state. This latest petition of 75,000 Queenslanders is protesting against the proposed increase in the new Queensland driver's licence which will more than double the cost of a five-year driver's licence over the next few years.

Debt, waste and taxes are in Labor's DNA. Labor just cannot manage money. What we have seen now is yet another project that has blown out from \$20 million up to \$112 million and has been branded as a new Queensland driver's licence. The government has tried to say that it is all about preventing fraud but, in fact, it is committing the fraud. It is the one that has now made Queensland the heaviest taxed and highest cost state in Australia to run a car.

Is it any wonder that Queenslanders have had enough? They have spoken out with these petitions and they want the government to listen. But has this government listened to date to the strong voice of these petitions? No. It is now blowing yet more money without careful management to ensure that the value of taxpayers' dollars is taken into account. Queenslanders are hurting. In my own electorate I am seeing businesses that are closing down because business confidence and money is not flowing. This government continues to pat itself on the back, look through rose-coloured glasses and say that nothing is wrong. It is time it stopped increasing taxes that are making this state so expensive to do business in and to live in.