



Speech by


**Liz Cunningham**

**MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE**

Hansard Tuesday, 15 May 2012

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## **ELECTION OF SPEAKER**

 **Mrs CUNNINGHAM** (Gladstone—Ind) (11.00 am): On behalf of the crossbenchers, I also support the member for Maroochydore's nomination as Speaker. Previous speakers have referred to John Mickel, the former member for Logan, and Neil Turner, the former member for Nicklin, both of whom I think set a proud record in this chamber in terms of their even-handedness in presiding over some very difficult times, particularly the former member for Nicklin when the numbers were so close.

I also support the member for Maroochydore because she is well qualified to preside. She is a person of great personal value. She is a woman of purpose and a member, I must say, well versed in interjections. So I would hope that as Speaker she shows some latitude to those of us who feel the need to interject on very valid grounds.

On behalf of the crossbenchers, I congratulate the member for Maroochydore for her promotion to the position of Speaker but, more importantly, we look forward to working not only with the first woman Speaker but for a Speaker who has all of the qualifications and indeed, I am sure, a willingness to see this chamber not only perform appropriately but protect and enhance the values of the community of Queensland.