




Speech By
Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR ALBERT

ADJOURNMENT

Think Queensland, Buy Locally Campaign

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (7.34 pm): I rise here today to speak about a wonderful program the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games is currently running throughout Queensland—the Think Queensland, Buy Locally campaign. Small business owners are finally seeing a government that genuinely cares about their interests, a government committed to better outcomes for business and a government that does not create roadblocks for business diversification. Under the stewardship of the Hon. Jann Stuckey, the department has initiated a wonderful Think Queensland, Buy Locally program—a program dedicated to attracting attention to our local businesses in our local areas.

There are a number of studies that support the notion of a multiplying economic impact for each dollar we spend locally. Some studies suggest that every dollar we spend locally works out to be returned five times to the community through building employment, investing in our local area and supporting our community groups. Many local sporting teams rely heavily on the generosity of local businesses, because without their support many community organisations simply could not fund their programs. It is not just sporting groups that benefit. The electorate of Albert contains many young and middle-aged families. These families potentially have teenagers searching for their first job. Without their local community and local businesses, these future leaders would find it very difficult to find part-time employment at their local newsagent, fast-food outlets or stationery suppliers et cetera whilst continuing their studies. In the long run, supporting local business is supporting the future of youth in your area, so this is certainly a wonderful program.

The electorate of Albert is home to a diverse array of businesses—from small business shopfronts to light manufacturing. The electorate stretches from Oxenford and Upper Coomera in the south to Yatala and Mount Warren Park in the north. I ask residents and other businesses to support their neighbourhood by supporting their local businesses which, in turn, support families in the local area. Again, I remind our community that there are many great shopping districts in Oxenford, Upper Coomera, Ormeau, Norfolk Village, Mount Warren Park and Windaroo. By supporting our local businesses, we are supporting the future of our community and future growth in our local area. Please support your local businesses, because this is a wonderful initiative.