




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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MOTION

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (4.32 pm): I rise today to support the ratification of the Queensland Plan. The Queensland Plan, as the Premier so ably said, is a vibrant, living document which reflects our shared vision for Queensland for the next 30 years. Like speakers before me have said, this plan was developed by 80,000 Queenslanders—mums and dads, boys and girls, grandmas and granddads; everyday people from electorates all over the state, electorates such as the great electorate of Nanango.

I want to touch on a couple of things. I am really very distressed to hear that the Leader of the Opposition has no vision. What concerns me about this is that in Queensland we live in a democracy. We teach our children who were heavily involved in the creation of the Queensland Plan about democracy in this great state. Basically, if I were to sum up simply for a child what democracy means it is having an opposition that is there to hold the government to account. What a shame our opposition has decided not to listen to 80,000 people—people whom they claim to represent. I am absolutely embarrassed for the next generation that they have that type of democracy in Queensland. This is an opposition that does not care about Queensland's future. This is an opposition that does not have a vision for Queensland's future.

I wish for my three daughters to grow up in a state that does have a vision and does have a plan. If they choose to live in the regions then they should be supported to do so. Should one of them decide to be a teacher then they should be valued. If there was one area that was identified most by the 80,000 who had input into the Queensland Plan it was that education is a serious issue and we need to look at increasing the status of teachers, for example.

Our government, unlike those opposite, did not sit around and just think about it and think about it. We actually went ahead and did something. We have already started on this. I mention the education summit held in the Ashgrove electorate which will aid in the development of the education accord. What a fantastic opportunity that was for people from every electorate in this great state to come together and discuss a vision for education. That is vision. We have a government that looks to the future. It does not just look to today. We are looking 30 years in advance. That is the type of Queensland that I want my daughters to grow up in.

One thing I briefly want to touch on is the regions. As we all know—and this came out clearly in the Queensland Plan—'Regions are the engine room of our state'. I could not have put that better. I really like the comment: 'Regions are the engine room of our state.' It is unfortunate that we have an opposition that does not care about the regions. They have never cared about the regions.

Our vision in the Queensland Plan—and I say 'our vision' because it is the vision of the 80,000 people who contributed; I thank those people who contributed; a lot of them came from the electorates of opposition members—is to double the regional population outside South-East Queensland. I say thank you to those 80,000 people for having that vision for the regions. If my daughters wish to reside in the regions there will be a vision.

I conclude by stating how wonderful it is that the Queensland Plan lists a 15-member community ambassadors council. That is to ensure that community led vision remains part of the people's plan. That 15-member community led ambassadors council is there to foster community participation. I think it extends the vision that this Queensland Plan gives to all Queenslanders.

It is not just for our government. This is a plan for the next 30 years. I am extremely proud to be a member of a government in this House that actually has a vision and has a plan for my daughters' future. I am proud to stand here and support the ratification of the plan.