




Speech By
Hon. Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 16 October 2014

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Cost of Living

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (9.54 am): This government understands what Queensland families need and that they are feeling cost-of-living pressures, and we are doing everything we can to help solve those issues. Over the past 2½ years, the Department of Justice and Attorney-General has overseen some landmark red-tape reduction reforms that have helped boost our economy. Reducing red tape for business and consumers not only makes life easier but also removes the barriers to trade that help create jobs and opportunities for Queenslanders.

Whether it be in the property industry, the construction industry or the tourism industry, I am proud to have overseen some very practical changes to make life easier for people. Let us look at some examples: I can announce to the House today that next month when we proclaim the property agencies and motor dealers legislation, as a consequence of the bills that will pass through this House government forms will reduce from 38 to 21. That is a 44.7 per cent reduction in government forms to buy and sell property in Queensland. Of course, those changes are on top of reintroducing the principal place of residence stamp duty concession, the Great Start Grant and the removal of the sustainability declaration.

I can advise the House that, in just under two years, the medium processing times that we talked about with liquor licensing have decreased by 50 per cent, for a restaurant by 42 per cent and for licence transfers by 27 per cent. Members will remember the Monto amendment affecting community groups, local shows and rodeos. No longer do 4,500 not-for-profit community organisations have to fill out community liquor permit applications. That is a 73.5 per cent reduction in permit applications. In the tourism industry, no longer do 17,000 hospitality workers have to fill out paperwork and pay \$215 for licence and renewal fees for gaming. We are serious about rebooting our economy. Only the LNP has a strong plan to reduce debt, free up the funds for job-creating infrastructure and lower the cost of living for Queensland families.