




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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VACANCY IN SENATE OF COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA: ELECTION OF SENATOR

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (3.01 pm): I rise today to support the nomination of Joanna Lindgren as the replacement candidate for the casual vacancy of the Senate created by the resignation of Senator Brett Mason. Joanna is proudly a resident of the growing community of Flagstone, one of the growing communities on the edge of Logan City and very much one of the great communities of the electorate of Logan. I look forward to working with future Senator Joanna and hope she is a strong voice for the families of Logan. She knows that there are fantastic families in the area seeking a better life through hard work, pioneering a new community and, indeed, a new city.

Joanna is no novice to politics. She took on the tough task of taking on the Premier in Inala. I am glad to say that she was not successful—my apologies. It could be said that she has politics in her blood, noting that her great-uncle was also a senator for Queensland, Neville Bonner. Like Minister Enoch and me, future Senator Lindgren is a former high school teacher. We have all seen how education can transform those families, such as my father and mother's families, accessing a new world through education. I know she will stand up for Queensland families to get the funding that our state needs to make that transformation for a new generation of families. I know she will be the champion of the needs of our local high schools: Flagstone State Community College, Park Ridge State High School and Browns Plains State High School.

As a new member of parliament myself, I know the apprehension and daunting task that is in front of Joanna. I think every politician who enters this place or any other representative chamber does so with a great weight of responsibility to do better for all who they represent. In this Joanna has all of the people of Queensland to represent, while I have the more humble task of representing our shared community in the state electorate of Logan.

I am proud that today we act in a bipartisan fashion in this place to fulfil the will of the voters as best we can to select the representative chosen by the party processes of the party of the retiring senator, in this case the Liberal National Party of Senator Brett Mason. Joanna lives in the street where I went door-to-door to introduce myself three years ago. I hope to be on her street again in the future. I will again be visiting friends and supporters of mine who live further up the street nearer to the roundabout. I wish Joanna Lindgren the very best in her new role as senator. I urge every member of this House to support her nomination as the replacement candidate for the casual vacancy in the Senate.