



Speech By  
**Jarrold Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Kawana Electorate**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (7.01 pm): Recently, I was pleased to join my Sunshine Coast colleagues, both state and federal, for the visit of the federal minister, Mr Chester, to announce \$800 million in federal spending on the Bruce Highway. That funding will upgrade the highway opposite Aussie World, cater for the Caloundra Road interchange upgrade and the Mooloolah River interchange, and fix the Wilson Road exit, which is a deadly intersection. I am very pleased that Sunshine Coast state and federal members of parliament continue to work together to achieve great things for the Sunshine Coast. Had it not been for the LNP government between 2012 and 2015, that road project certainly would not be starting next year. I thank Minister Chester. I thank our federal colleagues Andrew Wallace and Ted O'Brien for assisting us in getting the federal minister to the Sunshine Coast, to talk about not only that project but also other priorities that we are continuing to fight for on the Sunshine Coast.

The Caloundra Road Traffic Forum was held recently, which I attended with my colleague Mark McArdle. I thank the 100 or so residents of Caloundra and Kawana who attended the forum. We discussed issues of congestion on Caloundra Road and the Labor government's inability to address and fix those particular issues. It has only offered bandaid solutions. It was great to get community feedback in terms of what we are doing. After the petition was tabled today, we shall see the government's response. We will continue to ensure that roads are delivered on the Sunshine Coast, particularly to reduce congestion.

Congratulations to Chancellor State College, which recently held its Celebration of Excellence. There are some amazing children at Chancellor State College. Tonight, the Kawana Waters State College will hold its showcase function. Obviously I cannot attend, but my wife, Sally, is attending on my behalf. She always enjoys attending those things. Congratulations to all the kids. Congratulations to Buddina State School for a wonderful art show. It was a very professional art show. I would say it is one of the best art shows on the Sunshine Coast. A few weeks ago, I attended the school's constitutional convention at which the school kids debated a republic versus a monarchy. I was happy to represent the constitutional monarchy side. No doubt common sense prevailed and the students voted to retain the constitutional monarchy after my presentation.

I want to raise a more serious issue, which is the Labor Party's health payroll bungle that we saw occur years ago. Recently I was contacted by a few nurses in my electorate, one of whom recently became a mum. Queensland Health is chasing them for money, but cannot guarantee that the money is exactly what is owed. In the past few weeks, a nurse contacted me to say that she is being chased for a \$300 overpayment from some five to six years ago. Not only that, the Minister for Health's department has sent out debt collectors to collect the \$300 overpayment from that nurse. I call on the health minister to say enough is enough. They have probably spent \$5,000 chasing what they perceive

is a \$300 overpayment, which my constituent objects to and has a different view on anyway. I call on the health minister to stop chasing those poor women who are doing a tremendous job in our health department and to end the mess.