



Speech By  
**Patrick Weir**


**MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Dalby, Small Business**

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (11.13 pm): Since becoming the member for Condamine, I have had the opportunity to visit many small businesses within my electorate. It continues to amaze me how resourceful and innovative small business people are. They repeatedly rise to the challenge of changes in the economy and marketplace by modifying their business model. Small business is responsible for keeping our economy stimulated and employs a significant number of people.

Dalby is home to a large number of agricultural, manufacturing and engineering companies that have based themselves on the Darling Downs and invested in their local communities. Those businesses trade locally, Australia-wide and globally, putting Dalby on the world map as a location for companies to successfully run their business.

The community of Dalby went through a rapid and unsustainable development period that saw unprecedented growth. This turned into a massive downturn with the end of the construction phase for coal seam gas projects. Many companies changed their core business to service the CSG industry and its demands. However, once the rush was over, they had to readjust to a more realistic and sustainable business model.

In Dalby, many businesses have been operating for more than 20 years, with several closer to 30 years and one, White Industries, which commenced operations in 1960, is still one of the leading businesses in Dalby, employing local people. Simplicity is an agricultural machinery business that has gone from strength to strength, employing almost 100 people and continuing to develop state-of-the-art air seeders and tillage equipment to service farmers in Australia and worldwide.

Dingo Australia is developing its core business, whilst moving into different market spaces to diversify their product base. Ozcon, which is a relatively new business started by a local young couple, grew rapidly alongside the CSG industry expansion in the Surat Basin. They have now changed their focus and diversified to ensure their business remains successful into the future. Dalby Rural is an agricultural supplier company that has been operating since 1993. The founders are local people who support their local community and encourage local employment and industry.

As members can see, I am incredibly proud of my electorate and the active small business community within it. Small business is an important part of our economy and all our futures. I think tonight's result will give them a little boost as well.