Speech By

Bruce Saunders

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

MOTION

Revocation of Protected Areas

Mr SAUNDERS (Maryborough—ALP) (8.53 pm): I never thought I would rise in this House and agree with the member for Caloundra. I have spent a lot of time heading into Caloundra because there is a good racetrack there. I am very happy with this revocation motion as it will make it easier for me to get to the Caloundra races.

I spent a bit of my misspent youth heading up to Lamington National Park. I thoroughly enjoyed it. I concur with the honourable member that it is a great national park. In later life I have found that there is nothing better than to slip up to O'Reilly's. As you get older you look for those comforts and to take it nice and easy.

The revocation that impacts on the Aussie World turn-off is very important to me because I use the highway a lot. I go to Caloundra and the Sunshine Coast a fair bit. This will improve safety on the road. This is not a paid advertisement, but people who know me know that I do not mind a meat pie so I call in to get a meat pie at Beefy's at Aussie World. I know that some people will be upset that we are taking land away from the national park, but we should do anything we can to ensure the safety of road users. I refer to the alignment of the road in Lamington National Park and the road improvements on the Sunshine Coast.

Mr Rickuss: I do not think there will be a campaign against this.

Mr SAUNDERS: Exactly right. Anything we as a government or as a parliament can do to improve road safety is, I believe, a fair thing, even though it takes land away from the national park. This revocation to enable the realignment of the road in Lamington National Park and affecting Aussie World is a good move because it will improve safety for road users. Aussie World is a great tourist attraction. It would be nice if it was in the great electorate of Maryborough, but it is a tourist attraction used by thousands of people. I support the motion.