




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT

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ADJOURNMENT

Southport Electorate

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (9.47 pm): Today I rise to speak about the sensational electorate of Southport. Last week, I was privileged to be the first guest speaker of the year at the Southport State High School Business Alliance Breakfast. The alliance is an initiative started at the Southport State High School two years ago as part of their commitment to ensuring every student achieves their potential by building meaningful alliances and relationships with like-minded businesspeople from the local community and developing a collaboration between the business community so that both the school and the local business environment continue to thrive.

At the breakfast, I decided that I would run a mini hypotheticals. I invited all of the assembled guests to be sworn in as honorary members of the Queensland parliament. I suggested to them that there was a significant difference between being able to discuss things in this forum and having to stand up and vote yes or no on an issue. We ran 10 contentious issues past the group and they had to vote yes or no. It was a show of hands, so there was no hiding under the tables. We had a fascinating half-hour dialogue. I was a little mischievous in that I put the issues very simply and then, after they had voted yes or no, I pointed out some of the unintended consequences of their decisions. From all accounts, people enjoyed the exchange. Certainly it was a great experience for some of the young student leaders.

I am particularly proud of what has occurred in Southport since my election as the local member. It has been amazing to see the transition of Southport. One of my commitments was to lead and fight for the revitalisation of Southport as an excellent centre of business, education and health. As part of my presentation at the school last week I thought I would write out a scratch list of all the things that have occurred and put a dollar value to them. I was extremely surprised when the first round of scratchings came to something like \$7½ billion. That is what has been spent through private investment and government investment over the last five years. We have seen some significant money spent on Smith Street and Olsen Avenue—some \$400 million on roads—the games village and the expansion of the university.

I am also excited because this Saturday night I will be attending the second significant celebration at the Southport Olympic pool. The first time I was there for a celebration it was their 50th celebrations and I was just learning to swim. This Saturday night they celebrate their centenary. I am very excited to be their guest of honour. I congratulate the Southport Olympic Swimming Club for 100 years of service and 100 years of teaching kids how to swim.