



Speech By  
**Brent Mickelberg**


**MEMBER FOR BUDERIM**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Legacy

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (7.04 pm): I rise tonight to celebrate the vital work of Legacy—Australia's iconic welfare institution, which I am proud to say is the only one of its kind in the world. This week is Legacy Week—the annual national appeal to raise funds for the families of those who have served in war, peacekeeping or humanitarian missions and who have given their lives or their health for their country.

Legacy importantly supports families suffering financially and socially after the incapacitation or death of a spouse or parent during or after their defence service. Across Australia, Legacy supports over 60,000 spouses and children, many of whom live in Queensland.

Legacy volunteers, many of whom are ex-service men and women, are known as Legatees, and they bring important education, counselling, housing, medical, advocacy and social support to the families of veterans. Significantly, what sets Legacy apart from many other organisations is the focus on personal contact with individual widows and families. In my home on the Sunshine Coast, Legatees have performed tasks like installing rainwater tanks at the rural property of an elderly widow in her 90s who was not physically or financially able to do so herself.

During my service, the thing that concerned me more than anything was the thought of how my loved ones would be affected in the event that I was killed or suffered from a serious injury. Like many other service personnel, I took great comfort in knowing that my loved ones would be supported by organisations like Legacy should the worst happen.

This week Queenslanders will see service men and women, along with civilian volunteers, in shopping centres, airports and elsewhere asking for the community to support Legacy. I implore all Queenslanders to support this worthy organisation that provides support to those who have sacrificed so much.

I have a box of Legacy badges that I will make available for sale over the week. I invite my colleagues to buy a badge and to stand with me in sending a clear message of support from the Queensland parliament. It is about recognising the past, present and future sacrifices that families of veterans make and it is about saying thank you to the Legacy volunteers for their selfless service.

The face of Legacy is a 14-month-old baby, a 109-year-old man and every kind of face in between. Legacy is as relevant today as it was when it was established in 1923. To my mind, this only highlights the relevance and importance of its work.

On behalf of all currently serving members of the Australian Defence Force and veterans, I would like to say thank you to Legacy for the support it provides to widows and the children of veterans. As I mentioned, I know that many veterans find solace in the knowledge that Legacy will always be there for their loved ones when they need help the most.