




Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**

**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 September 2018

**ELECTRICITY AND OTHER LEGISLATION (BATTERIES AND PREMIUM FEED-IN TARIFF) AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (12.39 pm): When I first started as minister for environment and minister for the Great Barrier Reef in 2015, I was shocked by the extent of the devastation the Newman government had wrought upon renewables programs and programs to reduce carbon pollution. It was hard to see then how we would turn those things around, but today, in under four years, we can see how quickly the Palaszczuk government has been able to rebuild. With this bill, we will support the next wave of renewable energy, encouraging more people to take up solar and help regional Queenslanders save on their power bills.

From the moment we came to government, the Palaszczuk government has played its part in the global effort to address climate change. We have implemented policies that will ensure the long-term sustainability of our economy, communities and industries. Solar and battery technology has been a big part of that, not just in the regions but right across the state and across industries. Queensland Health is a big consumer of energy and it also sees the benefits of solar. Renewable energy will form a crucial part of its effort to make the Queensland Health system more sustainable, and I support it. It was not always easy.

The LNP has tried every scare campaign it could think of to rubbish climate science, but Queenslanders do not buy it. They want renewables, they want to protect our incredible environment and they want the savings in their pockets. I am proud to stand in this House today and with this bill support the next wave of renewable energy for Queensland.