




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Greenslopes Electorate, Small Business Week

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (2.52 pm): A couple of weeks ago we celebrated Small Business Week. As I do every year, I went around and visited some small businesses. This year I particularly targeted health promotion and fitness businesses—yoga studios, gyms and the like. It was great to catch up with Kate from MissFit. The last time I saw her she was breaking a world record for the most number of burpees. I can tell the House that her business is heading in the same direction. She is certainly breaking some records there.

It was also nice to meet Elissia from Studio Pilates, who is not only running a great, successful business that she started but is also giving back to the community by raising money for childhood cancer. It was really nice to drop in and talk to Darren and Justin who have been running Supplement City in Coorparoo for the last 14 years. That is a very successful business. They were really interested in the Palaszczuk Labor government's small business grants—of which nearly \$200,000 has been given out in the electorate of Greenslopes—and what they are for. I recently read an article in the *Brisbane Times* which quoted a recent Productivity Commission report. This really sums up what these grants are all about. It stated—

The share of businesses that are innovators ... is no longer growing. There is also some evidence that investment in performance assessment within business—a key feature of good management—is also declining.

To me, those are the two things that these business grants are trying to deal with—trying to encourage innovation, particularly in the digital space, and also trying to build capacity of businesses, particularly around that measurement of success and effectiveness. When you build capacity in business, you build confidence. When you build confidence, you will necessarily build success and that will lead to jobs in our community and that is something I am very committed to.

I was really pleased to attend the Women in Small Business Luncheon that was organised by Lady Marmalade, which is run by Sonja and Howard Searle, a great Stones Corner business. They received some funding to run this luncheon from the Palaszczuk Labor government, and it was great to see such a large number of women attend that day. In fact we almost could not fit into the restaurant. Those women came together, learnt from one another, supported one another and grew in confidence. One of their guest speakers was Laura from a Stones Corner based business called Snotty Noses. Laura has also received a digital innovation grant and she has used that to grow her business.

While I was pleased to tell them about these grants, I cannot wait to get back out there and talk about the budget that was presented yesterday and what it means for small business because it truly is a small business budget. There are increases in the small business grants and the payroll tax cuts, and I have already had some calls welcoming those. From my perspective, this is a jobs budget. As someone who is committed to creating jobs in our local community, as someone who is proud to be part of a government that has creating jobs as its No. 1 priority, it is great to see a budget that backs that up. This is a budget for all Queenslanders. Small business is an important part of our community. This budget is a budget for small business.