




Speech By
Robbie Katter

MEMBER FOR TRAEGER

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LIQUOR (RURAL HOTELS CONCESSION) AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr KATTER** (Traeger—KAP) (6.46 pm), in reply: I do not know that I can follow the member for Kawana's contribution. I strive to achieve brevity like that. I thank members for their contributions. I do not think I need to go over the virtues of what we are trying to achieve. Everyone gets the idea. Everyone has their own experiences and relationships with remote and rural pubs and understands full well what rural pubs do. Clearly they mean a lot to many in the House. The member for Currumbin mentioned Kate Downie in Hughenden. She is an outstanding example of someone who gives so much and goes beyond the commercial operation of their enterprise. I mentioned Alan Start had moved out of Einasleigh. I have heard he is back. Welcome back, Alan. I hope he is listening tonight.

I understand the intent of the improvements put forward in some of the contributions. We started from a raw position. It has been five years in the making because we were looking at ways to deliver it into the parliament. I take the criticism, if that is what it is, that there are places that will miss out. There are pubs in my electorate that will miss out. It may be a clumsy vehicle to try to make this policy work. I think we all appreciate that. There is good intent in the amendments. We agree with what we have seen in the government amendments and what the opposition amendments are trying to achieve.

I thank members for their contributions. It is a good night when we can come together on something that will mean a lot to a group of people who feel they are isolated and do not get a lot of help. It is a big move for the Attorney-General and the government to do this. I appreciate the gravity of it. Likewise, I thank the opposition for its support. The members for Gregory and Toowoomba South have been very supportive. I make special mention of Kirstin Payne, who no longer works with us, who worked very hard on this, and Conor O'Brien, who worked on it after that. I thank all those involved. I think we are doing a good thing here.