




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

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ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

CO-OPERATIVES NATIONAL LAW BILL

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (4.26 pm): It is wonderful to rise today to make a brief contribution in terms of the Co-operatives National Law Bill 2020. Both of these bills provide for the important progress of reforms in terms of modernisation in this space. In particular, the cooperatives bill has always been of interest to me and is something that I was keen to speak to today.

Queensland was home to the first cooperative retail store in Australia back in 1859. Today we have approximately 150 co-ops operating in our great state. It may just be that I am a socialist at heart, but cooperatives are one of my favourite business models of choice. I remember very distinctly the family conversation where I learned about cooperatives in my primary years. Despite not having the best memory—admittedly—this is one that stuck with me.

At this time of year traditionally we see state pitted against state with State of Origin, so in a typical year I do not know if I would make this confession. I was taken by my parents—without my express permission, I might add—south of the border from the ages of two to 10. With both paternal and maternal grandfathers and a strong family unit in northern New South Wales, we were taken across enemy lines. It was during these years that I saw the innate benefit of cooperatives through the bananas my maternal grandfather would pick or through the dairy industry that my paternal grandfather would contribute to with milking. Through these conversations and experiences with small sized operators we learned how they could make their enterprises grow and thrive. Despite being stranded in the 'inferior' state, this stuck with me and it shaped my view of the world. That is why I get excited when cooperatives like ABC Honey in my electorate in Brendale come to me to share their vision for cooperative exporting into Asia—

(Time expired)