




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING (PLASTIC ITEMS) AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (11.20 am), continuing: It is wonderful to continue this debate considering the answer that was just given by the brand new environment minister. The brand new environment minister is quite new to this parliament and I get that. Just as the member for Lytton needed a bit of a history lesson last night, perhaps the Minister for the Environment does not realise that it was the LNP that announced the container deposit scheme back in 2016. Where was the Labor government then? It was nowhere to be seen! I cannot table my phone to prove it but the member for Moggill, as the then shadow environment minister, and the member for Clayfield, as the then leader of the opposition, announced it in Bundaberg, where we were able to talk about the fact that the Palaszczuk Labor government had done nothing in this space.

It is the LNP that is interested in practical environmental outcomes. It was the LNP environment minister who brought in this policy. It was the LNP that introduced the single-use plastic bag policy, and I acknowledge the former environment minister, the member for Glass House. It is the LNP that is leading the way when it comes to environmental activism in this state. It is members of the LNP who are able to hold our heads up high and lead the policy debate in this great state. It was through leadership that we introduced those policies—and they followed. The Queensland Labor Party is clueless so they have to look to this side of the chamber on many issues. Congratulations go to my colleague the former shadow minister, the member for Moggill, in this space.

I want to thank the year 6 students of St Mary's Catholic College in Kingaroy. I know the member for Lytton does not think they deserve to be represented in this great House. I went and I listened to them and this issue is exactly what they were talking about. It is why that school, like so many of our schools, have led the charge, pushing members on this side of the House to say how wonderful it would be to bring back the container deposit scheme.

I am very pleased with the Cherbourg MRF, the material recovery facility, which I started talking about last night. It has won state awards. It processes hundreds of thousands of cans and bottles each week. It is quite incredible. The centre employs 15 young Indigenous people in Cherbourg—Andrew Beckett might say that he is not so young; I give a big shout-out to Andrew Beckett who runs that facility—and it employs eight workers in Kingaroy. The centre is open six days a week and they process hundreds of thousands of containers each and every week. The MRF is also looking to expand and value-add to their recycled products, which is another policy that the LNP brought in through the last state election campaign.

I can see the environment minister over there cackling away because she is thinking, 'Great! I'll go and look up that policy release because then I'll have another job to do next week.' I encourage the Palaszczuk government to look into glass recycling for road surfaces, which is a great idea.

Mr Watts interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I thank the member for Toowoomba North. I would like to table this article from the *Brisbane Times*.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Table it please, member for Nanango; do not use it as a prop.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: The headline reads: 'LNP pledges container deposit plan'. I am sure the environment minister would like to read that.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Brisbane Times*, dated 5 June 2016, titled 'LNP pledges container deposit plan' [292](#).

With the little bit of time that I have left I want to congratulate the federal member for Brisbane, the Hon. Trevor Evans, who handed down the National Plastics Plan last week, and once again congratulate the member for Bonney. As the shadow environment minister he is trying to encourage the Palaszczuk government to catch up to all the other states and sign up to that plan. Why is it that the Palaszczuk Labor government is so lazy and slow when it comes to signing up to national agreements? Every other state in the country bar Queensland wants to sign up for another practical environmental outcome, but not the Palaszczuk government.

Now that the member for Bonney has suggested it in the parliament today I am quite sure that the Deputy Premier and the environment minister will rush back to their little offices to do that, because once again it is the LNP leading the charge in this space and it is the Palaszczuk Labor government that follows. If members opposite dare question our right to have a voice in this House they do so because it is the LNP and the members on this side of the House who have the ideas and it is the government that follows our ideas.