



Speech By  
**Michael Crandon**


**MEMBER FOR COOMERA**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Coomera Electorate**

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (7.13 pm): With this the last parliamentary sitting week of the year, it is time to reflect on the year that was. There have been some interesting challenges, with COVID-19 continuing to impact all of us. Coupled with that, the Coomera electorate has seen population growth continue unabated. At the close of the roll for the 2020 election we had just over 45,700 voters. As at 29 October this year that number has grown to 48,543, an increase of almost 2,850, or 10.6 per cent. That is almost 31 per cent over the average, far higher than any other electorate in the state. We are also the youngest electorate in the state, with an average age of about 30. We have by far the largest population, at more than 84,000 residents; the largest population under 25 years, at more than 40 per cent; and the largest population under 15, at 27 per cent. We have 22 schools now, with the new Coomera Special School opening in 2022. To put that in perspective, in 2009 we had nine schools. The student population is just under 20,000 within the electorate and another 2,500 going to school in adjoining electorates and elsewhere. All of this growth adds to the challenges. Infrastructure is not keeping up with growth, as evidenced by recent media reporting that four of the five busiest roads on the Gold Coast are in the Coomera electorate. A lack of medical services and so much more adds to the burden.

I will turn now to another important topic. At this time of year we celebrate the end of school for our year 12 school leavers. To all the year 12 students getting ready for their next chapter, whether it be tertiary education or the workforce, I wish you safe passage and promise you that your hard work will be rewarded and that there is so much for you to explore in this amazing world we live in. I am sure it feels like forever that you have been wearing a school uniform. In that time you have witnessed the amazing transformation of the technology you use every day. With the last two years of school you have lived with COVID-19, just to challenge you a little more. How could anyone have imagined, when you started in prep, that the technology you carry around today would help you manage your days and sometimes control you? Well, now to the future and more of the same exponential growth in technology. Hopefully you will also experience exponential growth in your skills and knowledge. Take the time to explore and decide what is next for you and your future—but be quick about it once you have made up your mind. If you do not, just like old technology you will run the risk of being left behind.

I wish you all the very best for a successful, happy and healthy future. There are so many challenges ahead of you, but I have faith that with determination you can succeed and achieve your dreams. I am a firm believer in the idea that you make your own luck in life through thoughtful planning, so I wish you good planning and good luck.