




Speech By
Shane King

MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH

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ADJOURNMENT

Kurwongbah Electorate, Small Business

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (9.36 pm): I rise to speak on a topic that I know is important to each and every member in this place: small business. I could easily spend all my time tonight outlining the things the Palaszczuk government has done and is doing to help small businesses as our communities recover from COVID-19 impacts—things like freezing and deferring payroll tax, commercial rent relief, electricity rebates, business mentoring and financial counselling, \$1 billion in interest-free loans and a dedicated 24/7 small business hotline. We have also had numerous grant programs, including last year's small business adaptation grants that delivered around half a million dollars to help over 50 businesses in my electorate alone.

Right now, the Business Support Grants are open for application by eligible businesses that were affected by the recent Queensland lockdowns and the lockdowns interstate. \$10,000 is on offer through this grant for each eligible employing small business. There is more money on offer for medium sized businesses and more again for large tourism and hospitality businesses. These grants will be open until 16 November. Then there are \$1,000 grants available for non-employing sole traders. Those grants will be open until 30 November. Already, over \$20 million has been delivered to businesses eligible for these support grants. This is excellent news for our economic recovery.

I want to move on now and talk directly to those businesses located in my electorate of Kurwongbah. I want to help you as we recover together from the impacts of COVID-19—impacts that I know are ongoing. I have a decent number of small businesses on my email list now, but I know there are many more in the Kurwongbah electorate. I want to keep all local businesses informed about government grants and initiatives, especially home based and sole traders who might not have access to this type of information through any other formal channels such as representative peak bodies. If you are a local business and you want to stay informed, please reach out to me. You can email kurwongbah@parliament.qld.qov.au, call my office or drop me a line on Facebook or Instagram, @ShaneKingMP.

Because I am really keen to connect, I am opening up a competition called Small Business through Socials, with a \$300 goodies hamper on offer. Until Monday, 22 November, any Kurwongbah electorate based business that reaches out to me on Facebook or Instagram will go into the draw to win. This could be a great opportunity to make some new customers out of my followers.

I am also putting the offer out to sponsor one ad per month for a local small business in *Feature* magazine. If you want to take advantage, please email me your business logo or a business card and we can take it from there. I know it has been tough in the business world and for some businesses it has never been tougher. I know that some of you are just barely hanging on by a thread, so please reach out; I am genuinely here to help.