



Speech By Adrian Tantari

MEMBER FOR HERVEY BAY

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ADJOURNMENT

Mooney, Ms B

Mr TANTARI (Hervey Bay—ALP) (7.16 pm): Given that last week we celebrated International Women's Day, I want to acknowledge an extraordinary Australian women's cricketer who has made a name for herself both on and off the field and who just happens to have made good from Hervey Bay. I am of course referring to none other than the extraordinary Beth Mooney, who has been a force to be reckoned with in the cricketing world. Whilst Beth Mooney was born in Shepparton, Victoria, we in Hervey Bay are proud to call her one of our own. When Beth was 10 years old, she and her family moved to Hervey Bay where she attended Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School and Xavier Catholic College. Growing up, Beth had a passion for cricket and played for her local team before eventually making her way to the big leagues.

Her talent and hard work soon caught the attention of selectors and in 2016 she made her debut for the Australian women's cricket team. Since then, Beth has gone on to achieve great success and has been a consistent performer for the Australian team, playing a vital role in several of its greatest victories. In 2020 Beth played a significant role in helping Australia win the T20 World Cup final against India and picked up the Player of the Series award for her outstanding performances throughout the tournament. Just recently, Beth did it again and played a significant role in helping Australia win the 2023 T20 World Cup. Beth top scored in Australia's 19-run victory against South Africa, where she again starred with an unbeaten 74 not out and was named Player of the Final for her match-winning performance.

Beth's achievements in cricket have been nothing short of remarkable, but what makes her even more special is her humble nature and her dedication to giving back to her community. Despite her busy schedule, Beth regularly returns to Hervey Bay to inspire the next generation of cricketers and to give back to the town that supported her in her early days. Beth's success story is a testament to the fact that hard work and determination can take you places. Her story is an inspiration to young girls—and indeed to all young cricketers—who dream of making it big in cricket, or any other field. Her achievements on the field and her dedication to her community make her a role model for us all. Beth Mooney is not only an exceptional cricketer but also an outstanding human being who has made her adopted hometown of Hervey Bay proud. Her achievements in cricket are a testament to her talent and hard work and her dedication to giving back to her community is a testament to her character. I am confident that Beth will continue to achieve great success in her cricketing career and her long life after cricket. Beth, Hervey Bay and indeed Australia are proud of you. Well done, Beth Mooney.