




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MOTION

Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla, Address of Congratulations

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure) (12.38 pm): I rise to congratulate King Charles III on his coronation over the weekend. Regardless of the diversity of views in this House on the topic of the monarchy, I think I speak on behalf of all members when I wish the new King the very best. His predecessor leaves a significant legacy of duty and service to the Commonwealth, including to Queensland. Queenslanders will remember the Queen's support for our state over her lengthy reign, and I am sure that we can look forward to the King leaving a similar legacy. The passing of the crown to King Charles is an opportunity for renewal and reflection. King Charles has spoken about the need to listen to Indigenous voices, to heed their wisdom and to recognise historic wrongs. It is fitting then that, as we commemorate his coronation, this week we also passed a law to set Queensland on a path to treaty.

Queensland has a lot to offer and few know that better than the newly crowned King Charles III. The new King has a long and proud association with Queensland, first visiting in 1966 as a student studying in Victoria. It is fitting that we are holding regional parliament here in Cairns just days after his coronation, given his first visit to Queensland was to Cairns. Like all visitors to Cairns and Far North Queensland, he swam and fished off the Great Barrier Reef and enjoyed the best the Far North has to offer. Speaking then of the people that he met here, he described Queenslanders as 'direct, friendly, straightforward and often blunt with an incredibly good sense of humour', all traits that Queenslanders can be rightly proud of. It is those traits of Queenslanders as well as our great lifestyle and stunning natural environment that continues to attract international tourists here all the way to the now King. Since then he has visited our great state seven more times, most recently for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games in 2018 where he also came back to Cairns.

The King has long been a proud supporter of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, serving as the patron of the RFDS Friends in the UK, raising funds for the incredible work that the Flying Doctors do. I look forward to seeing the King's continued support for philanthropy and services in Queensland and his ongoing support for environmental conservation, including protecting the Great Barrier Reef. I support the motion to the House.