




Speech By  
**Adrian Tantari**

**MEMBER FOR HERVEY BAY**

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### **CHEAPER POWER (SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL)**

 **Mr TANTARI** (Hervey Bay—ALP) (7.26 pm): I rise to support this great cost-of-living initiative for the people of Queensland—the Cheaper Power (Supplementary Appropriation) Bill 2024. This cheaper power bill will have an immediate impact on the cost of living from 1 July 2024. By providing a \$1,000 rebate for every Hervey Bay household, the people of Hervey Bay will have an extra \$1,000 to put towards everyday living expenses. If you are a concession card holder in Hervey Bay, you will receive not only the \$1,000 rebate but also the Queensland government subsidy of \$372. Senior and concession card holders in Hervey Bay will get a total rebate of \$1,372 off their power bill, and that is for every household. Following the Albanese Labor government energy bill relief announcement last week, a further \$300 over the course of the new financial year will bring extra relief. That is great for everyone. This is great news for families struggling with cost-of-living and everyday expenses—another \$1,300 off their power bills next year.

For the average household, this \$1,000 power rebate, plus the \$300 extra from the Albanese Labor government—or \$1,672 for concession holders—will mean that some households will not pay a cent on their power bills until 2025. There is no denying that this is real cost-of-living relief that will make a big difference to Queenslanders and to the people of Hervey Bay. This has only come about because the Miles government backs our progressive coal royalties, which give back to each and every household in Hervey Bay their fair share from owning the coal that the big mining companies dig out of the ground that we all own. It comes about because we on this side have kept our energy assets in public hands. Our small business will also receive a rebate, with \$325 being given to around 205,000 eligible small businesses. Added to this will be a further \$325 from the Albanese Labor government for a total of \$650 off their energy consumption for the next financial year.

This comes with a warning. Make no mistake: if an LNP government is elected at the next state election, none of these cost-of-living measures will be continued. The LNP has already indicated that progressive coal royalties will be axed and the money that belongs to every Hervey Bay household will be returned to the multinational mining companies, because that is what the LNP does. The LNP is only here to profit their big business mates over the mums and dads of Hervey Bay. When every cent counts, it is only Labor and the Miles government that will deliver cheap power and real cost-of-living relief to all of us. Do not trust the LNP. They will do everything in their power to return coal royalties back to their big business donors.

Putting this into context, for the last financial year and this financial year combined households in Hervey Bay will have received a combined total of \$1,850 off their power bills. For pensioners and concession card holders, this comes to a total of \$2,744 off their power bills. This is what a Labor government does. An LNP government will do nothing more than return your money back to big business and make you pay more for your power.

I thank the Miles government for this initiative. Only a Miles government has a real desire to assist the mums and dads, the pensioners and the people doing it tough in a national cost-of-living crisis. It is this Miles government that knows the importance of providing around 2.2 million Queensland households with relief from cost-of-living pressures. It is only Labor governments that will deliver real relief for the people of Hervey Bay in Queensland. I support the bill.