



Speech By  
**Ali King**


**MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE**

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Record of Proceedings, 2 May 2024

### **PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

#### **Cost of Living, Electricity Rebate; Liberal National Party**

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (2.16 pm): What great news the people of Pumicestone woke up to today thanks to our new Miles Labor government. Whether I am out door-knocking, making calls or at community events, people tell me over and over that inflation has hurt them and that they need help to lower their household bills. We are listening, and today we are delivering. Our huge cost-of-living rebates will take \$1,000 off the power bill of every household and \$1,372 off the power bills of concession card holders and seniors. That is great news for people in my community doing it tough. This cost-of-living support from our new Miles Labor government means that many families in Pumicestone will pay zero on their first power bill after July. I know that they welcome that. I say to them, remember, if you have solar or your usage is low, your credit can rollover to your future bills or you can even apply to have that money transferred into your bank account to help with your other expenses. It is great news.

Our record cost-of-living support is only possible because we kept our energy assets in public hands and because we are making multinational coal companies share their record profits with Queenslanders through our progressive coal royalties. Of course, we know that that is all at risk under the LNP. Labor believes that Queenslanders should benefit from our Queensland resources—not wealthy multinational coal companies. Whether it is our huge cost-of-living help or delivering more health care into the heart of our community via our Bribie Satellite Hospital, I will always fight for the infrastructure, the services and the support that locals need, as will every member on this side of the House. But it is all at risk in October if Queensland elects an LNP government because we know that the LNP will cut cost-of-living support right when households can least afford it.

The LNP voted against public ownership of our energy assets which makes all those cost-of-living supports possible. They are on the record promising their Queensland Resources Council mates that they will get rid of our progressive coal royalties. Locally in Pumicestone, they have been loud and proud about how they wanted our government to build a private hospital instead of our public Bribie Satellite Hospital. Taking away those royalties would blow a \$9 billion black hole in the Queensland budget. How will the LNP fill it? The way they always seek to fill any hole—by cutting, sacking and selling.

It is Queenslanders who will pay the price if the LNP are elected. They will cut health services, sell off our satellite hospitals and sack health workers, just like they did with the Wynnum hospital. The member for Lytton is on the record clearly stating what the loss of that hospital represented to her community. Nurses working at our Caboolture Hospital and satellite hospital have been very clear that they are frightened. They are right to be frightened, because those opposite marched 731 local nurses out the door in 2015.

*(Time expired)*