



Speech By  
**Cynthia Lui**


**MEMBER FOR COOK**

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Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2024

**MOTION OF CONDOLENCE**

**Wood, Mr B, AM**

 **Ms LUI** (Cook—ALP) (9.47 am): I rise to make a short contribution to the condolence motion for Mr Bill Wood AM. I did not have the privilege of meeting Mr Wood personally, but I would like to acknowledge his dedicated service as an elected Labor member for the electorate of Cook. Mr Wood was first elected a member of Queensland's Legislative Assembly in 1969 for the seat of Cook. He went on to serve a second term in the Queensland parliament, transferring to the new seat of Barron River. I want to acknowledge the contribution of the member for Barron River.

I am told that Mr Wood had a deep commitment to serving the community which was inspired by his father, who also served in the Queensland parliament and led the Queensland Labor Party for a time. Serving the people as a member of the Labor Party was a family affair for the Woods. Bill's identical twin brother, the late Peter Wood, was also a Labor member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly. Mr Wood AM moved to Canberra in 1978—a year after I was born—where he returned to his profession as a teacher. Politics called again, however, and he served as an adviser to a Labor ACT senator. He later served as a minister in the ACT, including for education, disability, housing, community services, police, the arts and urban services. He retired from politics in 2004 but continued to serve the community. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2013.

Mr Wood died at the age of 88 earlier this year. His life was celebrated at a state funeral. On behalf of the Cook electorate, I extend my condolences to Mr Wood's family and acknowledge the dedication and service of the former member for Cook. Vale, Bill Wood.