




Speech By
Jonty Bush

MEMBER FOR COOPER

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CHEAPER POWER (SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL)

 **Ms BUSH** (Cooper—ALP) (10.07 pm): The residents in my community are just so excited about our government's cost-of-living energy rebate. A \$1,000 credit onto every Queensland household's energy bill means that many households in my electorate will not pay a power bill until this time next year. It could not come at a better time. I have spoken with many residents in my electorate who have told me that they, like many Queenslanders, are struggling with cost-of-living pressures at the moment—people like Nicole from The Gap who recently pulled back some of her hours at work to focus on being at home a bit more for her teenage daughters, but with her mortgage going up 13 times in two years and needing to feed and provide for a family of five it has been incredibly stressful; or Mike in Bardon who told me that not having to even think about an energy bill now for a year means he can focus his attention more on building his small business; or Cat in The Gap who I doorknocked recently. Cat has a son in kindergarten and so is a beneficiary of both the \$1,000 energy rebate and the Miles government's free kindy. She was almost in tears when I turned up at her door.

Of course, you cannot please everybody all of the time. I did speak to a gentleman on the phone who did not think the \$1,000 credit was necessary, until I offered to connect him to some local charities who would welcome his \$1,000 donation. He then remembered a few extra things that he would like to purchase and thanked me for my advocacy with the Premier on delivering this important cost-of-living relief.

This \$1,000 credit on all Queensland household energy bills is only possible because we have made multinationals and resource companies pay their fair share of royalties after record profits delivering a projected additional \$9.4 billion over the first five years of implementation and, secondly, because, unlike those opposite, we have kept our energy assets in public hands so we can deliver this dividend directly to 5.5 million Queenslanders. This is all at risk under the LNP government because we know that the Leader of the Opposition does not support our position on progressive coal royalties or public ownership of energy assets. Only a Miles Labor government is willing to take up the fight with foreign multinationals and only a Miles Labor government is prepared to invest in all Queenslanders. I commend the bill to the House.