




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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MOTION

Cost of Living, Select Committee

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (5.28 pm): I rise to support the amendment. I am really proud of the work that our government has been doing in providing genuine cost-of-living relief. I just listened to the member for Currumbin's contribution. If you want to talk about cherrypicking—because if you were not here for December and you were not here in January and you missed Tropical Cyclone Jasper and you missed Tropical Cyclone Kirrily, you missed the floods—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Direct your comments through the chair.

Ms RICHARDS: The member missed all of the natural disasters that have occurred in Queensland and the impact that is having on insurance. Seriously, you cannot take Queenslanders for fools on all of the different things that impact insurance. Be genuine. The member for Currumbin just spent five minutes contributing to a debate saying that insurance premiums have only gone up because of youth crime. Everybody in this chamber knows that that is simply not true. It is not true. An inquiry is going to be held into supermarket pricing. I genuinely hope that whoever from the opposition is nominated to sit on that committee contributes in a meaningful way for all Queenslanders. Queenslanders deserve to have all of us on the same page, fighting for better outcomes when it comes to what is a duopoly between Coles and Woolworths. We all need to be on the same page.

Let's face it: this is a national issue. The ACCC is looking at it at the moment and there is a Senate inquiry. We all need to play our part in making sure that we hold those big retailers to account and that we hold the big banks to account as well. Skippy's Fresh Frootz, a great local small business in my area, sells fresh fruit and produce. Today they have avocados for 49 cents. I concur with the member for Gympie. That small business can sell them at 49 cents. Today Woolies have them for \$1.70. That is the price difference. Strawberries are \$3.99 a kilogram from the local small produce guy and \$6 from Woolies. I genuinely hope that the LNP will participate meaningfully in the inquiry to make sure that we can do everything that we can to continue to provide cost-of-living relief and support for all Queenslanders.

We have just heard the contribution from the member for Kurwongbah around electricity. Those opposite cherrypick when it comes to prices. When we talk about electricity and water prices those opposite obviously have a very short memory as to what happened when they were last in government. In less than three years, while the LNP were in government, water in the Redland City Council area went up 53 per cent. They have very short-term memories about what their track record is. They come into this place and literally cherrypick prices and do not think about what they did when they were in government.

I am proud to be part of a government that is delivering free kindy for families. That is nearly \$4,000 worth of savings for families. We are delivering free TAFE to make sure that we can get the right skills and training for young people here in Queensland. We are delivering concession rebates for our

seniors and a free pair of glasses for pensioners. We are delivering so much in that space. Our electricity rebates here in Queensland have been nation leading. That is because we own our public assets. We have not tried to sell them off. That is the LNP's track record in that space.

When we talk about being genuine and delivering for Queenslanders, the track record of those opposite says it all. The LNP's track record is on the public record, whether it is in the water space, whether it is in the electricity space or whether it is sacking people. There is dignity in having a job to be able to put food on the table. We have done work in the rental space. The members opposite have their heads down. They know what their track record looks like.

Our Miles government will continue to deliver for people like Alan in the Redlands who was able to get, under our energy rebates, the energy efficient appliance rebate to get a new washing machine for his home. That is what we are doing to help everyday Queenslanders. The LNP will continue in their normal tradition of cutting, sacking, selling and absolutely standing up for their big mates in the corporate world. I proudly support all of the work that our Miles government is doing to make life better for Queenslanders.