




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

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CHEAPER POWER (SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL)

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women) (6.09 pm): I am proud to rise in support of the Cheaper Power (Supplementary Appropriation) Bill 2024. We know that right across Queensland families are struggling with mounting costs. Whether it is fuel, groceries or rent, every household is feeling the pinch of rising prices. When families are struggling, governments have a responsibility to take action and that is exactly what this cheaper power bill does.

This bill will deliver a \$1,000 cost-of-living rebate to every Queensland household's electricity account from 1 July. This is the largest ever cost-of-living package in our state's history and it is only possible because of a Labor government—a Labor government that has taken on the multinational mining companies and fought to keep our energy assets in public hands. This government has also extended the \$372 electricity rebate for seniors, pensioners and veterans, meaning vulnerable households will receive over \$1,300 in power bill relief, and that is even before we get to the Albanese Labor government's recent announcement of a further \$300 electricity rebate for every Australian household. This is what Labor governments do. When times are tough, Labor governments are there to support families.

It is such an honour to represent the hardworking people of Waterford. I have loved every minute of talking to them about the cost-of-living relief that Labor is delivering. I have spoken to locals such as Roy, who said he was stoked to hear we are putting \$1,000 towards his energy bill. Teresita, who has lived in Bethania for 20 years, told me what a difference this would make to her household budget. Shanace from Logan Reserve said much the same, as did Irma and her husband, Camilo, who are waiting with excitement for 1 July.

I am also very proud to be a member of the Miles Labor government that is delivering this relief. It is only possible because of our progressive coal royalties—the same coal royalties that the LNP have refused to support time and time again, and we know they will slash them if they ever win government. Fundamentally, the LNP care more about the pockets of their mates in the mining industry than they care about the pockets of Roy and Teresita. The LNP fundamentally do not believe that Irma and Camilo deserve to benefit from the natural resources of their state. The LNP do not care about the families of Waterford and the families right across Queensland who are doing it tough. Only Labor will stand up for Queensland families when they need it most, and that is exactly what the cheaper power bill is doing.