




Speech By
John Barounis

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

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MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Kingston, Dr JA

 **Mr BAROUNIS** (Maryborough—LNP) (9.42 am): It is with great sadness that I rise today to acknowledge the passing of John Alan Kingston on 17 June 2024. John was not only a dedicated public servant; he was also a remarkable member of the Maryborough community whose contributions will be remembered for years to come. John's commitment to public service was evident long before his election to state parliament. As a Maryborough city councillor, he worked tirelessly to advocate for local issues, ensuring that the voices of our community were heard and their needs were addressed.

His passion for the people of Maryborough was the driving force behind his decision to enter state politics where he continued his service at an even greater level. In 1998 John was elected as the state member for Maryborough, representing the One Nation party until 23 February 1999. During this time, John was a member of Estimates Committee E, the Parliamentary Crime and Misconduct Committee, the Parliamentary Criminal Justice Committee, the Members' Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee and Estimates Committee F. He was One Nation's shadow spokesperson for communication, information, local government, planning, regional and rural communities, state development and trade, environment, heritage and natural resources.

His strong sense of independence and duty to his electorate led him to serve his community that elected him to the esteemed position. He was re-elected in 2001 as an independent, demonstrating the trust and respect he had earned from the people of Maryborough. Throughout his time in office, John was known for his unwavering commitment to his constituents, always putting their needs first and working diligently to improve their lives.

Beyond his political career, John was a devoted husband of Pahninh and a loving father to their three children. His dedication to his family mirrored the same values he brought to his public service—integrity, compassion and a steadfast commitment to doing what was right. The late Dr John Kingston was a businessman, pharmacist, vet, academic, farmer and rural adviser, Indigenous advocate and conservation visionary. John was very well known in the community for helping those less fortunate than himself. His legacy extends beyond the policies he supported and the causes he championed; it lives on in the community he served so passionately.

On behalf of the Maryborough electorate, I extend my deepest condolences to John's family and friends and all those who had the privilege of knowing him. His contribution to our region will not be forgotten and his memory will continue to inspire those who seek to serve their community. May he rest in peace.