



## Speech By Lance McCallum

## MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 12 March 2025

## ADJOURNMENT

## Ripley Valley, School Bus Services

**Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (9.08 pm): The Ripley Valley is a beautiful part of our community. It is one of the most rapidly growing parts of our community because it is such a wonderful place to live. With that growth comes more demands on essential services. We need more school buses in the Ripley Valley for students who are at both Ripley Valley State School and Ripley Valley State Secondary School. Students are currently waiting up to an hour and a half for their school bus to take them home. We have teachers who, after a long day in the classroom, are having to stay back for another couple of hours to look after kids. When the buses do arrive they end up being unsafe because they are overcrowded. I have heard stories from parents and students who live only around four or five kilometres away from school and it is taking them over two hours to get home. It is simply not good enough.

With the support of the community, I want to pay tribute to our school communities, the P&Cs and people like Sarah Yarham. We have launched a petition calling for these urgently needed improved services for our local schoolchildren. Unfortunately the requests for these extra school buses have up until now fallen on deaf ears. I know that representations have been made to the responsible bus company. That stops now. We will take this all the way to the minister responsible to make sure that we get the service improvements that our local kids deserve. It is not good enough for them to have to sit around for over an hour and a half and—

Government members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Whiting): Order, members to my right!

**Mr McCALLUM:** I take the interjections from the LNP members over there who are whingeing about and arguing against improvements to local school bus services in Bundamba. That is exactly the kind of attitude that we would expect from this government. They do not really care. I am asking all locals to go on to my website, sign our petition and support improved local bus services for our children.