



Speech By  
**Bart Mellish**


**MEMBER FOR ASPLEY**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 March 2026

## **PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**

### **Fuel Security, Beerwah Co-op**

 **Mr MELLISH** (Aspley—ALP) (2.39 pm): LNP MPs last night voted down our motion that would have helped deliver lower fuel prices to people right across the state. The parliament last night witnessed the extraordinary sight of LNP MPs lining up to vote against a motion that would have delivered lower fuel prices for their electorates.

We know the Treasurer and the transport minister are worried about the political impacts of their inaction on fuel because they admitted they spent yesterday morning watching me at the committee hearing, instead of doing their job. I would not watch me if you paid me! Talk about being obsessed with the opposition and the politics! This Premier has consistently refused to take any action to help Queenslanders through the fuel price crisis. He said in January 2025, he owed it to Queenslanders to look at this measure, but he has refused to stand up.

Not only is the LNP letting down the state, they are letting down their local communities. At a time when global instability is putting pressure on local fuel supply, why is the LNP evicting one of Beerwah's two existing fuel stations? The Beerwah Co-op operates the only local fuel station that can support the refuelling of heavy vehicles, the very trucks keeping supply chains moving. Rather than supporting the Beerwah Co-op, the government is pushing forward with their plans to tear it down, not to support local industry but to build a four-storey commuter car park to complement the actual rail portion of the Wave.

Beerwah Co-op's 400 members are made up of primary producers and small business owners. They have done all the right things. They have tried to engage with their local MP, the member for Caloundra, and they have contacted a number of ministers. After months of silence from the transport minister's office, they finally got a 12-minute meeting with him—12 minutes before they got the boot! Despite their best efforts, this government is still refusing to reverse their decision. The co-op's members are feeling anxiety over their future.

You can be sure that if this proposal was for a multistorey car park next to Arona station on the same project, it would not be going ahead because, of course, that is where the Deputy Premier owns property. So, Arona is fine, but Beerwah has to fend for itself. The co-op have set up petitions. They experienced real disappointment when the Clerk informed them that the member for Caloundra had declined their request to sponsor their parliamentary petition. The LNP's approach to rush through the destruction is just another case of an LNP MP declaring their allegiance to the Premier and not to the people.

The last time I spoke on this in the House, the member for Glass House was loudly yelling across the chamber that it was not his problem as it was not in his electorate. Well, as I am sure the member is well aware, thanks to John Sosso and the Deputy Premier, it now is, going off the draft boundaries. So, here he comes! Maybe the member will now take an interest in the Beerwah Co-op. As Paul Keating once said, in a horse race, always back the horse called Self-Interest; at least you know it is trying.

The people of Beerwah will remember who failed to show up for them. The LNP claims to support small businesses. They do not. They claim to care about Beerwah. They do not. They claim to stand up for farmers and producers. They do not. They stand for nothing and they are willing to let the destruction of a local community go by unwatched.