



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: Monday 8 August 2011

For immediate release

BLIGH LABOR VOTES UP THE COST OF CAR REGO

The Bligh Labor Government has continued to ignore increasing cost of living pressures on Queensland households and businesses and have voted in parliament to further increase the cost of motor vehicle registration, Hinchinbrook MP, Andrew Cripps, said today.

Mr Cripps slammed North Queensland Labor MPs in the Cairns and Townsville regions for arrogantly disregarding their constituents who are struggling to make ends meet under the shocking financial mismanagement of Premier Anna Bligh and Treasurer Andrew Fraser.

"Every North Queensland Labor MP had the chance to stand up to the Bligh Government's endless increases in taxes and charges - but they failed their constituents. The Members for Thuringowa, Townsville and Mundingburra were again missing in action" said Mr Cripps.

"According to the RACQ, Queensland is now the most expensive place to own and operate a motor vehicle anywhere in Australia. The Members for Cairns, Mulgrave, Barron River and Cook should be embarrassed about this shocking record of cost blow outs" he said.

Mr Cripps said the LNP had moved a disallowance motion against Labor's car rego hike in the Queensland Parliament, to try and protect Queenslanders from further cost increases that had seen the registration fee for an average family car rise by 32 per cent since 2008.

"It will now cost the average family \$805.30 to register a six-cylinder family sedan. It's getting harder for Queenslanders, particularly lower and middle income earners, to pay their bills. Labor just doesn't seem to care that they are punishing the battlers" said Mr Cripps.

"Given the size of our state, Queenslanders need their car, particularly in regional and rural areas, as there are often no alternative's such as public transport. However, regional and rural Queenslanders can not sustain any more hits to their hip pocket" he said.

"Under an LNP Government led by Campbell Newman, registration fees for family cars will be frozen for its first term to help Queenslanders deal with the pressure on their household incomes. It will be a handbrake on the cost of everyday essentials" said Mr Cripps.

"This latest increase in car rego comes on top of recent increases in stamp duty on the sale of motor vehicles and the introduction of a new 9 cents per litre fuel tax under the Bligh Labor Government. These North Queensland Labor MPs have lost the plot" he said.

Contact:	Andrew Cripps MP Member for Hinchinbrook	Address:	PO Box 1515 Ingham Qld 4850	Ph:	07 4776 1428
		E-mail:	Hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au	Fax:	07 4776 3503
