



MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

Hinchinbrook residents win cost of living relief

Hinchinbrook MP Andrew Cripps says the LNP is working to ease the cost of living for North Queenslanders still recovering following Cyclone Yasi.

Mr Cripps said new measures to improve the cost of living would be welcome news to the Hinchinbrook electorate, which was hit hard by spiraling costs under the former State Labor Government.

“Speaking to many people in my electorate of Hinchinbrook, I’ve heard the stories from families and from pensioners about the power bills, the rates notices, the health care costs, the fuel bills, the registration costs and the grocery bills that keep increasing and increasing,” Mr Cripps said.

“People in my electorate have suffered firstly through a natural disaster and since then they have been suffering from the fall out of that disaster.”

The Queensland Parliament yesterday passed the *Cost of Living Bill* aimed at addressing the rising cost of living.

The passage of the Bill means that Queensland residents will no longer be slugged up to an extra \$7,000 when purchasing a family home to live in, after the LNP reinstated the principle place of residence stamp duty concession.

“The passage of the Bill will also mean that more small businesses will not pay payroll tax from 1 July 2012, with the exemption threshold increasing from \$1 million to \$1.1 million,” Mr Cripps said.

“It will mean that residential property owners will be relieved of unnecessary and useless green tape when selling a residential dwelling.

“These measures show that the LNP is serious about honouring its election promise to ease the cost of living for Queensland families.”

In order to reduce the cost of living pressure on North Queensland families and individuals, the LNP has already frozen family car registration fees, and the traffic improvement component of motor vehicle registration.

The suspension of these fees will be locked in place for the next three years, providing cost of living relief for Queenslanders at a time when they need it most.

In addition, the LNP has put a freeze on the domestic electricity tariff (Tariff 11) for the next 12 months.

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