



Speech By  
**Hon. Jann Stuckey**

**MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 September 2014

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Queensland Drive Tourism Strategy**

 **Hon. JA STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games) (2.26 pm): Many of us will look back to the holidays of our childhoods with fondness—packed into the back of the family car, we were blissfully unaware of any discomfort while we joyfully played I-spy. Recollections of these drive holidays are held dearly in our hearts and are a crucial component of our tourism industry, with some 11 million tourists hitting Queensland roads each year, many on a nostalgic journey down memory lane. Queensland's vast and picturesque landscape provides the ideal backdrop for a drive holiday and we are working to cultivate this market further through the Queensland Drive Tourism Strategy 2013-15 in partnership with the Minister for Transport and Main Roads.

A safe driving environment is pivotal to attracting visitors to venture onto our roads and visit our diverse regional areas. Our Bruce Highway is a main artery responsible for carrying tourists and locals alike right up and down Queensland's coastline. It needs to be secure and well maintained—something Labor failed to do for two decades. Labor neglected roads and tourism. Little wonder both were in such a mess. Thanks to the Newman government the Bruce is finally getting a well deserved spruce, with more than 200 projects currently underway or due to start in the coming months. Work on the Warrego Highway and the Toowoomba second range crossing is supporting tourism throughout the Toowoomba region by taking heavy vehicles off our tourism routes, making it safer and quicker for visitors to see our many wonders. The recent announcement of developments on the Outback Way will be welcome news to our friends out west. Tourists are receiving a warm welcome to many towns, with more than 300 colourful new tourism signs recently installed across our strategic tourism drive routes. In response to a surge in caravan and RV traffic, in March this year I released the Queensland Camping Options Toolkit for local governments. The Newman government is building better roads across the state so Queenslanders and our visitors can travel to our many unique destinations safely.