



9 AUGUST 2007

AN APPEAL FOR NOOSA

Glen Elmes, Member for Noosa will make an impassioned plea in the Parliament today during the debate on local government reform.

"I have just 20 minutes to speak on the amalgamation issue today" Glen says, "and it's my intention to make the most of each minute to state my case on behalf of every resident in the Noosa Shire to not be amalgamated and included in a Sunshine Coast Supercouncil.

"My speech will be a heartfelt request, made to the Premier, the Deputy Premier, the Minister for Local Government, and perhaps more importantly, to the Labor backbenchers, calling upon their sense of common decency to listen to the Noosa message. I intend to appeal to them as long-standing and loyal members of the Labor movement and will call upon their sense of social justice.

Earlier this week there was a condolence motion in the parliament for the passing of Tom Burns, a great Queenslander, a great member of the Labor Party and a great Member of Parliament. I hope that the Labor members will reflect on his legacy, his values and on the old beliefs of the Labor Party, to show understanding and provide certainty for our future.

"I know that there is a lot more fight in Noosa yet and I refer to the work currently under way by The Friends of Noosa, private members' bills, as well as my and the Coalition's guarantee to de-amalgamate Noosa should it be the will of the people to do so - we shouldn't have to go through all this pain.

"My intention, with the best will in the world, is to appeal to the Government and the members of the Government, to leave Noosa alone. There is no justification to amalgamate Noosa, not on social grounds, not on environmental grounds and not on financial grounds. I will ask that Noosa be allowed to remain free."

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