



**15 AUGUST 2007**

## **SNEAKY REV. PETE AT IT AGAIN**

Press reports that quote Premier Peter Beattie as saying "I think Queensland is religion, saving Queensland is religious and we have a religious zeal and commitment to do just that" has prompted the Member for Noosa Glen Elmes to compare the Premier's statement to "something you would expect to hear from one of those over-the-top televangelists and Premier Beattie is just as credible."

"There wouldn't be a city, town or shire anywhere in the state that couldn't justifiably claim iconic status for something they have done or which already exists, and while I welcome any move to protect Noosa, just how far is this proposed legislation to be rolled out into other areas of Queensland, apart from Noosa and Port Douglas?"

"I congratulate Bob Abbot in working within, and for the betterment of, our community however any guarantees given by the Beattie Labor government about protecting Noosa through legislation has the same substance as the legislation that was overturned by the same government which guaranteed to the people of Queensland the right to vote on amalgamation" Glen Elmes said.

"If the Premier had just a shred of decency he could prove his commitment to Noosa and Port Douglas by proposing a small amendment to the legislation passed last week, to re-create a stand-alone Noosa Shire.

"History has proven that the best protectors of any community are the people that live in it and I can assure the Premier that if there is any real religious zeal around it is in the hearts and minds of the residents of Noosa and their desire to protect their way of life."

**ENDS**

**Further information: Glen Elmes MP. Tel: 5449-8988 or 0400 800 114**

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59 Mary Street, PO Box 155, Noosaville Q 4566  
Ph 5449 8988 FreeCall 1800 818 396 Fax 5449 9719  
EMAIL: [noosa@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:noosa@parliament.qld.gov.au)  
[www.glenelmes.com](http://www.glenelmes.com)