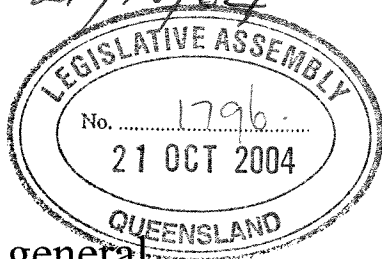


Remainder in copy attached, by hand

LAI'D UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

21/10/04



Ministerial Statement by the Premier

Mr Speaker today QANTAS will hold its annual general meeting in Brisbane.

That is a very significant moment for QANTAS and for this city and indeed the State that Qantas has "come home" for its AGM.

Monday *Townsend* *9* *I attended @ a dinner with the* *board last*

It is again another example of Brisbane attracting key national events.

It follows the two major political forces in Australia having had their Federal Election launches here in Brisbane.

John Howard and Mark Latham both chose Brisbane.

All of this at the same time when Indy is tipped to attract more than 300,000 visitors and when the "full house" signs go up at the Gold Coast

Next month there is another milestone event with between 1200 and 1500 people expected for to attend the internationally recognised AusBiotech.

I want to thank Qantas chair Margaret Jackson and CEO Geoff Dickson for having their key annual meeting here in Brisbane.

WE as a government are most grateful for their recent decision to shift 250 international flight crew jobs to Brisbane meaning there are now just short of 5000 aviation jobs created in Queensland since 1998.

The giant Qantas heavy maintenance facility being built at Brisbane Airport also attests this.