



**Bernie Ripoll** MP  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR OXLEY

PO Box 555 Goodna Qld 4300 Ph: 3818 3900 Fax: 3818 1181 Email: [bernie.ripoll.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:bernie.ripoll.mp@aph.gov.au) Website: [www.bripoll.com.au](http://www.bripoll.com.au)

Thursday, 4 January 2007

## **MOTORWAY TRAGEDY HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR ESSENTIAL UPGRADE**

Yesterday's fatality on the Ipswich Motorway highlights the severe and urgent need of the full upgrade to this notorious section of road, Federal Member for Oxley Bernie Ripoll said today.

"There is no doubt that this accident was a tragedy, but it hasn't come without warning.

We have lobbied the Federal Government continuously over the last 8 years to get this motorway fixed. How many more deaths will be allowed to occur until they wake up to the fact this is a major problem?" Mr Ripoll said.

Yesterday's accident was not the first and it will definitely not be the last if the Federal Government doesn't get its act together.

"There has been a lot of debate on this issue over the years and if it wasn't for the local Member for Blair continuously blocking this essential piece of road infrastructure, yesterday's tragedy might have been avoided.

Every user of this motorway deserves answers as to why the Ipswich Motorway has not been upgraded yet and until then the Howard Government and Member for Blair should be held accountable for every issue associated with it" Mr Ripoll said.

**Media contacts: Bernie Ripoll MP (0418 763 351) or Ryan Ginard (0418 879 091)**

**Media Release**