

## Police Powers and Responsibilities (Jack's Law) Amendment Bill 2022

**Submission No:** 4  
**Submitted by:** Safe Night Cairns CBD Precinct Inc.  
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**Submitter Comments:**

The Community Support and Services Committee  
Queensland Parliamentary Service  
Parliament House, George Street, Brisbane, Qld, 4000  
[CSSC@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:CSSC@parliament.qld.gov.au)

**Re: the Police Powers and Responsibilities (Jack's Law) Amendment Bill 2022**

The Safe Night Cairns CBD Precinct Inc. (SNCCP) fully supports the proposed bill to extend and expand the trial of hand held scanners to detect unlawfully possessed knives to all 15 Safe Night Precincts (SNPs) in Queensland.

We believe that by amending the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* to:

- extend the expiry date of the scanning provisions to 30 April 2025;
- increase the scope of prescribed public areas for scanning to include all 15 SNPs and all public transport stations, including public transport vehicles;
- strengthen the criteria that a senior police officer must consider before approving the use of a hand held scanner device,

the Queensland Police Service across our state will be provided with a very effective tool in detecting concealed weapons, thereby elevating the real level of safety for persons in the Safe Night Precincts, in public transport stations and on public vehicles.

Knives, in particular, are weapons that are very easy for a person to conceal and, in a moment of rage or opportunity, to use to kill or injure either on the streets or within a venue. When police officers do not have the power to scan for such weapons the result can only be an increase in such deaths or injuries.

With the reported number of injuries and deaths by knife stabbings rapidly increasing across Australia, approval of this amendment at the earliest possible date is critical.

We look forward to hearing that the Police Powers and Responsibilities (Jack's Law) Amendment Bill 2022 has soon been signed into law.