

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY SAFETY BILL 2023

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Submitted by: [REDACTED]
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Submitter Comments:

I believe that a public hearing should be held in Townsville. The Townsville community has been at the center of public debate around youth crime issues since crime forums held in mid 2016. I would be more than happy to raise further questions at such a hearing pertaining to: How the triaged legislative response for high risk offenders will not accidentally capture lower risk offender and therefore elevate their risk and behaviors. When will the effectiveness of interventions proposed in the announcement be published. Is there an intention to action preventative strategies, such as those identified in the Townsville Voice report particularly pertaining to education. These looked at reducing the impact of the School to Prison Pipeline. Is there intention to ensure access to developmental and neurological assessment in early primary school for those displaying complex behaviors. Considering Australian research has clearly identified the detention centers are over populated with children with un-diagnosed conditions. All of which impact on behavior, school and community integration and eventually criminal behaviour. All in all, fixing a car once it has broken down is important, however servicing the vehicle to avoid a breakdown in the first place is a much more effective long term strategy. Change and investment across the spectrum is required to hold high impact offenders to account, protect the community and to ensure children at future risk of entering the justice system receive support as early as possible.