

Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024

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When our elected representatives draft legislation, I like to think it is drafted for the peace, order and good government of our State. The current Bill fails sadly in these objectives. It cannot be good government to entrench children in our criminal justice system and to subject them to the same penalties as we would an adult. It cannot be good government to draft legislation that flouts Australia's international obligations with respect to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, when Queensland only so recently legislatively recognized an individual is still a child until they turn 18. How can we move forward as a society when this is the kind of law proposed to address youth crime?