

## **Making Queensland Safer (Adult Crime, Adult Time) Amendment Bill 2025**

**Submission No:** 50  
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**Submitter Comments:**

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To Whom it May Concern,

Please find following a submission on the Making Queensland Safer (Adult Crime, Adult Time) Amendment Bill 2025.

As long term residents of a regional city who have experienced youth crime and witnessed the impact first hand, we are very concerned about the scale of the crimes being committed in our community. We do not want this to continue. We have experienced crime and also have deep concern for those who have experienced violent crime and believe there needs to be accountability. However we do not support the government's Adult Crime, Adult Time approach to addressing this issue.

We are concerned that legislation to address this complex issue continues to be developed quickly and reactively without a reasonable amount of time for public debate. We are frustrated that the government continues to legislate solutions that are not evidence-based and do not seek to break cycles of violence. We want justice practices that are restorative and transformative for our community.

We are dismayed that these proposed amendments would again result in our state overriding the Human Rights Act, the fourth time in 6 years.

We are alarmed that the laws continue to violate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, furthering our state's poor track record upholding this important Convention.

The report on the amendments acknowledges this legislation will put further strain on youth detention centres. This will lead to even more children as young as 10 being placed in watch houses. Watch houses are not designed for children and young people. [The Premier has acknowledged this himself](#). The abuse and risks children are exposed to in these environments is well documented and only serves to reinforce the cycle of violence.

While the Queensland Youth Justice Minister denies this legislation will unfairly discriminate against First Nations young people, we know that racism within society and the justice system mean these children are over-represented in youth detention. We support the racial discrimination complaint to the UN by Professor Hannah McGlade and the Human Rights Law Centre.

We want to be clear, we do not want our community to continue to live with fear of violent crimes. We do not want to fear our houses being broken into, our families harmed and cars stolen. When our community hurts, so do we.

However, we know the pathway out of this is not by putting more children in contact with youth justice. It is through evidence based solutions that address the causes of offending. It is through equitable housing and inclusive education. It is through well resourced and supported community-led solutions. This is what will keep our community safe.

We ask the government to listen to the [multitudes of experts](#) (and [here](#)), [advocates](#) and [community leaders](#) who continue to call out the dangers of an Adult Crime, Adult Time approach, and have consistently provided alternative evidence-based solutions.

Thank you,

Janice Scott, Jillian Williams, Jenna Williams, Lachlann Carter, Josh Davidson and families