

**Police Powers and Responsibilities (Making Jack's Law Permanent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025**

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<b>Submitted by:</b>	Jack Beasley Fund Incorporated-Jack Beasley Foundation
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<b>Submitter Comments:</b>	

Dear Committee Members,

**Police Powers and Responsibility (Making Jack's Law Permanent) and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025: Submission by the Jack Beasley Foundation**

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Committee's consideration of this bill.

I write on behalf of the Jack Beasley Foundation (JBF), Brett and myself. This submission has been prepared with the approval of and input from our community organisation's board of directors.

We welcome the expansion of the existing 'Jack's Law' provisions which currently allow police officers to use a hand held scanner to detect knives or other weapons in certain places. The expansion will be to:

- make Jack's Law permanent by removing the current sunset clause which schedules its expiry on 30 October 2026
- allow a police officer to use a hand held scanner in a 'relevant place' without the need to obtain an authority to do so from a senior officer
- expand the application of Jack's Law to allow a police officer to use a hand held scanner in public places, which are not 'relevant places', provided they first obtain authority to do so from a senior officer
- improve policing efficiencies by making amendments to the legislative framework provided in the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000*.

We as a foundation have gone out with the Police on numerous occasions over the past 4 years and watched how the wandering is done and how well Queensland Police Service (QPS) do this. It is not invasive, it takes minimal time, it is educating the people that are being wandered and it is keeping the community safe. In this time there has been no complaints which is a credit to QPS. We have spoken to many people while out with the QPS from children to adults and received such positive feedback and many messages supporting this wandering and the expansions.

With over 1300 weapons that have been removed from the streets in 4 years, we truly do think that the community have been shocked at the number of weapons that have been found and the areas they were found in. At the end of the day any person that has children wants their child (no matter their age 16 or 36) to come home safe and the community deserves to feel safe when they go out. Every weapon removed of the streets is a potential life saved.

As you are no doubt aware, the success of Jack's Laws approach has been the combination of legislative reform, new public policy, policing operations and education. This multi-faceted approach has, together with the power of the 'Jack's Law' brand, been pivotal in achieving such significant change within a short period of time across Australia. Jack's Law is a nation leading law that has seen Jack's Law model used in other jurisdiction across Australia including New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania and Northern Territory.

We have seen Western Australia Police and New South Wales Police visit Brisbane and the Gold Coast to see how Queensland Police operationalise the wandering legislation. Brett and Belinda presented to both the story behind Jack's Law and went out on a wandering operation to show them how effective this law is.

QPS have done a remarkable job with Jack's Law, and we would like to thank them all for being so passionate and making Jack's Law such a success. We would also like to place on record our acknowledgement of some outstanding members of the QPS. Acting Assistant Commissioner Rhys Wildman, Inspector Jim Munckton, Senior Sergeant Brad Rix, Senior Sergeant Paul Hunter and Sergeant Michael Chalmers who are the driving force for the ongoing success of these laws in Queensland.

While advocating for legislative change and better police resourcing to deter knife violence is part of the solution, JBF knew that we needed to formulate an educational piece to educate the youth of today about the ramifications and snowball effect a single act of violence can have on so many people.

Our "One Moment" educational presentations commenced in July 2021 and have visited over 50 schools in SEQ, with a further 43 schools booked in so far for 2025 including 20 schools in NSW.

Delivered in partnership with the QPS "I live my life without a knife" the "One Moment" presentation is all about educating young people on the dangers the dangers of knife crime and the long-term effects on the offenders, victims, and indirect parties including friends, families and complete strangers. JBF want young people to understand how one moment can change the lives of so many people.

This one-hour presentation has direct interaction with Brett and Belinda Beasley sharing their experience along with video footage of Jack's brother and Jacks friends showing first-hand how life can change because of that "One Moment" of senseless violence, whilst also promoting better decisions and choices. The QPS deliver further information on knife legislation including "Jacks Law" and awareness around prevention of becoming a victim of knife violence.

We know the decision to take a knife when they're heading out is often a split-second one, that it's often done because they think they need it for protection. It is our hope that through education and hearing Brett, Belinda, Mitch and Jack's friends talk about their loss will make some of these young people think twice before carrying a knife or hanging around a person carrying one.

We would like to thank Mark Ryan MP for listening to our requests to name these laws in honour of Jack when he was the serving Police Minister and for his support during that time.

We would also like to thank the Premier David Crisafulli and Police Minister Dan Purdie for their support and for expanding Jack's Law with the necessary changes to widening the areas of where the wandings can be conducted, improving policing efficiencies and making Jack's Law permanent in honour of Jack.

A special mention also to our local member Minister Sam O'Connor for his ongoing support and who has been advocating for JBF from the very beginning.

There is nothing that could ever replace the loss of our beautiful boy Jack but knowing that we have been able to make change has been of some comfort. It means so much to us that weapons will be taken off our streets and that communities throughout Queensland and Australia will be protected in Jack's name.

Thank you again for this opportunity. We would welcome a chance to appear at any public hearings the Committee is holding as part of their consideration.

Kind regards

Belinda and Brett Beasley  
Jack Beasley Foundation