

Queensland Police Union of Employees

217 North Quay, Brisbane, Qld 4000. Telephone (07) 3259 1900

ABN 75 781 631 327



Fax: (07) 3259 1994
Email: ileavers@qpu.asn.au

23 September 2019

Committee Chair
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000



Dear Mr Russo MP,

Re: *Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019*

Thank you for consulting with the Queensland Police Union ("QPU") in relation to the above Bill. As you would be aware the QPU represents over 12,500 police officers, watchhouse officers, liaison officers and band members throughout Queensland.

The QPU supports Government implementing the legislative tools our members require to safely and efficiently serve the people of Queensland and to prevent crime.

The Bill proposes to address access to digital information powers. The existing powers are extremely useful when investigating serious crimes such as paedophilia, terrorism and sexual offences such as rapes. Unfortunately, with advances in technology and the increasing use of widely available encryption, criminals have become more sophisticated in their attempts to avoid apprehension.

The proposed new powers contained in the Bill go a long way to ensuring Queensland's police can remain a step ahead and provide them with the tools necessary to effectively police with today's technology.

The QPU commends the Bill to the Committee and expresses its support for the above provisions.

In terms of the remaining provisions, the QPU notes there are amendments to assist Weapons Licencing Branch and also to improve the efficiency of the Prostitution Licencing Authority. The QPU also is generally supportive of those amendments.

I am available on 3259 1900 should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ian Leavers', written in a cursive style.

IAN LEAVERS
GENERAL PRESIDENT & CEO