



Speech by

VAUGHAN JOHNSON

MEMBER FOR GREGORY

Hansard 21 October 1998

SPEED CAMERAS

Mr JOHNSON (Gregory—NPA) (10 a.m.): From time to time, Governments have to make hard decisions. Today I rise to speak about one of the hard decisions of the former Borbidge/Sheldon coalition Government, namely, the introduction of speed cameras in this State. I have significant evidence to demonstrate to the Parliament today that speed cameras are working well in this State.

Today the road toll in Queensland stands at 213, as compared with 295 for same period last year. That is a significant reduction—some 82 fewer fatalities for the same period. The Government has been basking in the reflected glory of the coalition's hard work but has failed to provide its support for the many programs that have contributed to the current road toll equalling the best results achieved in the late 1950s. I place on record the hard yards put in by Russell Cooper and me with respect to the introduction of speed cameras. I acknowledge also the great work done by the Queensland Police Service and also Queensland Transport and Main Roads in bringing that to fruition.

In addition to there being 82 fewer fatalities for the same period, probably about 300 or 400 people have been saved from serious injury through road trauma. I urge the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and the Minister for Police to keep up the relentless attack on improper behaviour on our roads and walkways so that we can achieve that target of 300 that I set in place. I hope and pray that 1999 will see another significant reduction in road fatalities and road associated trauma in this State. Currently, we have the safest roads in Australia, because we have been fair dinkum about those people who do not abide by the law. I ask the relevant Ministers to oblige.

Time expired.
