



Speech by

**Mr L. SPRINGBORG**

**MEMBER FOR WARWICK**

---

Hansard 13 April 1999

**JUSTICE LEGISLATION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL**

**Mr SPRINGBORG** (Warwick—NPA) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (4.14 p.m.): At the outset I indicate that the Opposition supports the Justice Legislation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 1998. This Bill largely mirrors legislation introduced into the Parliament prior to the State election last year and it fell off the books when the Parliament was prorogued. I commend the Attorney-General for reintroducing this legislation into the Parliament. It basically does away with some obsolete provisions. It also puts a far more contemporary application on other statutes contained within the portfolio of the Attorney-General.

Briefly, I wish to speak to two matters. I support the amendments to the Bail Act, which allow for a clearer and far more contemporary approach to the granting of or the ability to be able to appeal or review bail in Queensland. As the Attorney-General would appreciate, bail is an issue of considerable concern to a lot of people in the community. We have to make sure that people are treated fairly. However, the community has some concerns—and justifiably so in some cases—in respect of the granting of bail. The community wants to be sure that the State has a clearly defined ability to be able to stand up and represent their concerns. That is why it is proper that we now have a clearly defined path of appeal for the State and also, for that matter, for the accused right through to the highest courts.

Another provision in the Bill will give the cheques of non-bank financial institutions, for the purposes of the Property Law Act, the same standing as bank cheques. That makes a lot of sense and is in line with what we are seeing around Australia as building societies and credit unions are rightly being placed on the same footing as banks. The Opposition has great pleasure in supporting this amending legislation and commends the Attorney-General for bringing it into the Parliament.

---