



Speech by

PETER WELLINGTON

MEMBER FOR NICKLIN

Hansard 21 June 2000

POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND OTHER ACTS AMENDMENT BILL

Mr WELLINGTON (Nicklin—IND) (10.49 p.m.): I rise to speak in support of the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2000. The one area of this Bill that I seek to specifically speak to is covered on page 82 of the Bill where the definition of "prescribed place" is expanded to include a war memorial. My interpretation of this expression of the prescribed place definition to include a war memorial is that it will give police the power to move people on, that is, people who the police officer reasonably suspects may be disrupting the peaceful and orderly conduct of an event, entertainment or gathering at the place.

The reason I have mentioned this part of the Bill in the debate tonight is that last year I seconded a motion moved by the member for Gladstone, the substance of which was to ensure the peaceful conduct of Anzac Day ceremonies in Queensland. I believe this legislation will have the effect of giving police in Queensland the power to move people on under section 37(1)(d) all year round and ensure that it will now be very easy for the Queensland police to move on people who may be disrupting the peaceful and orderly conduct of any event or gathering at a war memorial, in particular Anzac Day ceremonies. I commend the Bill to the House and thank the Minister for his inclusion of this aspect in the Bill.
