



Speech by

**CHRIS CUMMINS**

**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Hansard 22 August 2002

**CORRECTIVE SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL**

**Mr CUMMINS** (Kawana—ALP) (4.54 p.m.): I rise to speak on the Corrective Services Amendment Bill 2002. It seeks to amend the Corrective Services Act 2000 to ensure the ongoing viability of the WORC outreach camps or WORC program, whilst maintaining a strong commitment to protecting community safety. The WORC program was established in 1990 by the Goss Labor government and was applauded right across the state. It was established to assist with the clean-up following the Charleville floods. The program has been a significant rehabilitative initiative and has provided substantial benefits to western Queensland communities. Since 1991 and 1992, when community work hours began to be formally recorded, the program has contributed in excess of one million hours of community service. This should be applauded by all Queenslanders. This equates to almost \$13.5 million of assistance to the people of northern and western Queensland, and I know that they are very appreciative of it. I commend the minister and the department for making further improvements to this program. I commend the bill to the House.