



Speech by

**Mr D. BRISKEY**

**MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND**

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Hansard 25 November 2003

**POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

**Mr BRISKEY** (Cleveland—ALP) (5.23 p.m.): I rise to speak in support of the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2003. The bill reflects a number of major reforms to law and order in the state, making amendments to some 11 acts. I take the opportunity to congratulate the minister and his department on bringing this bill into the House and ensuring that Queensland, the Smart State, stays at the forefront of policing.

I would like to spend a moment talking about the changes to the act relating to when a vehicle may be impounded or forfeited for a hooning related offence. In my electorate of Cleveland we have experienced problems with hooning, particularly around the Wellington Point Reserve and in other areas, for instance, in Cleveland. Many constituents have raised with me concerns about the noise and stress caused by drivers hooning around streets in their cars. Many members would have received similar complaints from constituents concerned about hooning. I must note that hooning is not just the domain of adrenaline junkies or boys in their late teens. It is a serious and real issue.

I am pleased that this government has taken a stand to outlaw this activity for those few people who choose to risk the lives of many and upset people who wish to enjoy a quiet night in their homes. Although it is the legitimate right of car enthusiasts to drive their vehicles around the streets—and we have many in the Redlands who do this and do so without upsetting anyone—there are some, unfortunately, who must know that when they step outside the boundaries of the law they will be dealt with by the police and punished. Changes to the law whereby offenders will forfeit their vehicles to the state once their vehicle has been impounded for the initial 48-hour period should be warning enough that hooning will not be tolerated. These reckless hoons will be the subject of tough mechanisms designed to punish those who endanger the lives of themselves and other innocent people. I commend the bill to the House.