



Speech by

## Lillian van Litsenburg

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Hansard Wednesday, 14 March 2007

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### SECURITY PROVIDERS AMENDMENT BILL

**Ms van LITSENBURG** (Redcliffe—ALP) (2.30 pm): I rise to support the Security Providers Amendment Bill 2006, which strengthens the criteria used to determine a person's appropriateness to hold a licence. The chief executive will be able to take into account additional criteria when assessing a person's appropriateness to hold a licence. Existing criteria allow the chief executive to consider whether the person has shown dishonesty or lack of integrity, associates with criminals in a way that indicates involvement in an unlawful activity or that the person holds an unrecorded conviction for an offence. With the number of incidents in recent years of alleged bashings of nightclub patrons by bouncers, it is essential that we ensure that people entering the industry are above reproach, that they have the proper training for the job and that their use of restraint is within safe parameters. As a seaside suburb, Redcliffe has a fleet of security personnel who patrol our beaches and the lagoon at Settlement Cove in the evenings. This has added to people's feeling of safety around dusk and after and I have not heard that there have been any physical issues or clashes involving security personnel.

This bill also ensures that even if personnel do not have a title which denotes security but security duties are part of their role they will be encompassed by this bill. The bill proposes that unrecorded convictions—that is, findings of guilt where a conviction is not recorded—be considered when assessing a licence application. Consideration of unrecorded convictions is to be limited to those offences currently prescribed under the act as disqualifying offences—for example, theft, assault, burglary and drug offences. Use of unrecorded convictions will also be limited to findings of guilt within the previous five years. Discovering that a person has unrecorded convictions will not automatically result in exclusion but will provide the chief executive with a more comprehensive picture of a person's suitability to hold a licence. These amendments are consistent with the national approach of assessing a person's suitability to operate in the security industry. They also ensure that Queensland contributes to national harmonisation of security industry licensing regimes as recommended by the Council of Australian Governments. I thank the Minister for Tourism, Fair Trading, Wine Industry Development and Women for the insightful amendments to this bill. It will close the loopholes that have allowed some inappropriate people to enter the industry. I commend this bill to the House.