




Speech By  
**Hon. David Crisafulli**

**MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA**

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## **POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (MOTOR VEHICLE IMPOUNDMENT) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Mundingburra—LNP) (Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience) (8.04 pm): I rise with genuine pride to speak in support of the Police Powers and Responsibilities (Motor Vehicle Impoundment) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. It shows clearly the direction in which the minister and the government are heading. We went to the electorate seeking a very clear mandate for what we would do. This bill puts that into place.

Our police will have the powers and the legal backup to make Queenslanders safe in the streets and hoons will know that they will pay the price if they threaten their community. This bill means that police will take action from offence No. 1. That includes car impoundment for up to three months for the first serious hooning offence. A second hooning offence within the next five years will see the offender's car confiscated to be sold or crushed. The message is loud and clear: use our roads for dangerous races and pranks and you will be immediately taken off them.

I want to touch on something said earlier today by the Attorney-General. That is, if you do not do the wrong thing you have nothing to fear. Indeed, that is the case with this bill. More so, it is the case for genuine car enthusiasts. That is the message I want to give tonight. This is not about people who love their cars. It is not about people who spend a lot of money on their vehicles. It is not about the size of your exhaust or the size of your rims or whether or not you have a spoiler or whether it is a V8 or a little four-cylinder. It does not matter. In fact, I might go a step further: the genuine car enthusiast is not the idiot spinning his tyres in a suburban street. The genuine car enthusiast is too busy looking after his vehicle, going to the track and running a quarter mile in a confined area, where it is safe for him and his car. In the debate that has ensued we have lost sight of the fact that the majority of people who commit this offence are more likely to be in a Datsun 120Y than in an HSV Clubsport.

**Mr McArdle:** Not in 2013 they're not, mate!

**Mr CRISAFULLI:** I take the interjection. The 120Ys are still around—a few 180Bs as well! The genuine car enthusiast has nothing to fear. In fact, the genuine car enthusiast will have less chance of some idiot coming roaring around the corner and destroying their pride and joy. There is another message. That is, these will be the toughest anti-hooning laws in Australia. We should all be very proud of that fact.

In my own home of Mundingburra we had an incident whereby Vincent man Michael Williams was woken up at 4.30 am when a car slammed into his house. Police say that speed was a huge factor. Then there was the bright spark who launched through a fence, carved up the lawn and ended up hooked on a decorative anchor in front of the Townsville coastguard base. Apparently their car park is a regular hoon gathering place before people go speeding down Sir Leslie Thiess Drive in the electorate of Townsville. They have also decided to take over the busy Port Access Road linking the Flinders and Bruce highways. As the road is straight it gives them the opportunity to do things like

drifting. South Townsville's Benwell Road is another area. Time and time again police say that these idiots do not care about the consequences for themselves or for others.

This bill gives these people a much better reason than they have had before to think about the consequences. Their cars will be impounded, sold or crushed. And that means something to these people. That means their freedom is curtailed in a way. If that stops them putting at risk the lives of my family and your family, Mr Deputy Speaker Berry, then we should be all for this. Let us not overcomplicate this: if you do the burnouts, the car goes. It is as simple as that.

Far be it for me to summarise the speeches of others—I know the minister will do a fine job—but I listened to the contribution of the member for Rockhampton this afternoon on a few matters and I have never heard so many conflicting logics in one sentence. He started by saying what a wonderful piece of legislation it was because somehow he had an attachment to it—being a member of the Labor Party, he said he had an attachment—but then he said that it simply went too far. He then said that there were some good changes but there was no consultation. He then made the comment that this was all about making the toughest laws in Australia and that that was somehow just a media grab. If that is a media grab, then I say guilty—guilty as charged. If that is what it takes to get the message to idiots so they do not go speeding in the streets of Rockhampton, we should be singing it from the rooftops, because people have had enough. They have had enough of this behaviour. They know that it is dangerous. They know that it puts people's lives at risk. We should all be looking to support this, not just with words but genuinely supporting it in all we do. This clamps down on the people who are doing the wrong thing and this takes another step to make sure that Queensland is a safe place for our families.