




Speech By
Hon. Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 26 August 2014

SAFE NIGHT OUT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (12.14 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

I thank the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee for its consideration of the Safe Night Out Legislation Amendment Bill 2014. I note that the committee tabled its report on 18 August 2014 and I now table the government's response to the committee report on behalf of the Premier.

Tabled paper: Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee: Report No. 70—Safe Night Out Legislation Amendment Bill 2014, government response [\[5740\]](#).

I take this opportunity to thank the industry and community stakeholders who took the time to make written submissions or appeared at public hearings to assist the committee in its consideration of the bill. Queenslanders and visitors to our great state have the right to enjoy our vibrant and diverse night-life, and feel safe while doing so. The passage of this bill will deliver positive changes for the people of Queensland by reducing alcohol and drug related violence and providing a safer night-life that all Queenslanders can enjoy, because we on this side of the House know that a great night out is a safe night out. It is a comprehensive and holistic approach aimed at delivering long-term changes to the culture that leads to antisocial and violent behaviour. It also reflects the clear community sentiment that this culture and the violence associated with it is not welcome in Queensland and must stop now.

I now turn to the committee's recommendations. The committee has made three recommendations about the bill and sought clarification on four issues. The government wholly supports the first two recommendations and supports the third in part. The government welcomes the committee's recommendation that the bill be passed. The committee's second recommendation requests confirmation that the evaluation framework for the sober-safe centre trial will be developed prior to the commencement of the trial and that the result of the evaluation will be provided to the Legislative Assembly for further consideration. I can confirm that the government supports this recommendation. The framework for the evaluation of the strategy is currently being developed and will be finalised in the last quarter of 2014. This date reflects the government's effort to accommodate the differing implementation dates for the initiatives in the strategy and to ensure that it reflects the final practical design of each relevant element of the strategy. The results of the evaluation will also be provided to the Legislative Assembly for further consideration at an appropriate time.

The committee's third recommendation is that the bill or an appropriate regulation be amended to ensure that ID scanning must commence for regulated premises no later than 10 pm, enable flexibility for individual regulated premises to commence ID scanning earlier than 10 pm if they wish and, finally, empower local board associations to set a compulsory earlier commencement time for ID scanning for all regulated premises within their precinct from time to time to assist with maintenance

of safety and security at specific events. The government supports this recommendation in part and I will be moving amendments during consideration in detail of the bill to achieve that objective.

The government agrees that it would be appropriate to amend the standard commencement time for ID scanning to 10 pm from 8 pm as it is not the government's intention to inconvenience patrons who are genuinely only interested in having dinner. The 10 pm commencement time will ensure that a large majority of diners are not captured by the ID-scanning requirement. Individual regulated premises will of course be able to exercise their right to commence scanning IDs earlier than 10 pm if they wish. Similarly, local boards will be free to reach an agreement with their members as to whether ID scanning should commence earlier than 10 pm. However, given the cooperative nature of the boards and the government's intention that safe-night precincts be managed in a mutually collaborative way, the government does not consider it would be appropriate to formally and directly empower the boards to compel regulated premises within their precinct to commence ID scanning at an earlier time. I would like to point out that the commissioner will have the ability to condition an earlier or later commencement time on a licence where circumstances warrant.

The committee also requested four points of clarification. The first of these seeks clarification as to how many health professionals are intended to be on duty in sober-safe centres at any one time. I can confirm that two appropriately trained and qualified healthcare professionals will be on duty at the sober-safe centres. The second point seeks clarification as to how the provisions relating to the drug and alcohol assessment and referral courses will operate for people in rural or remote communities given the mandatory nature of the bail condition and the difficulties such persons may have in complying with the condition of bail.

The bill adopts a flexible approach to the implementation of this new mandatory bail condition to facilitate the delivery of drug and alcohol assessment and referral courses state-wide. A defendant who lives in a rural or remote location will be able to complete a drug and alcohol assessment and referral course by using a range of communication methods to enable them to engage with the approved course provider. The bill does not prescribe the means by which a defendant must complete the course. Accordingly, that could occur via face-to-face contact, or videoconferencing, or through other online options such as Skype technology. Further, the bill does not require the defendant to complete the course at the location where they have been charged with the prescribed offence or where it is alleged that the offence was committed.

The third point seeks clarification as to how the ID-scanning policy will operate for hotels situated within a safe-night precinct. The committee has also sought clarification on the process for an exemption from or applying for individual conditions so as not to be subjected to the ID-scanning requirements. The government recognises the importance of ensuring that the legislation is sufficiently flexible to cater for the range of different types of premises and operating circumstances that may arise. Accordingly, proposed amendments to the bill will exempt the following persons from the requirement to present their ID for scanning before entering a regulated premises: persons attending a function within a regulated premises; persons wishing to have a meal in an area ordinarily set aside and used for dining in a regulated premises; exempt minors as currently defined under the Liquor Act 1992; and temporary and permanent residents of a regulated premises. Additionally, it is proposed that persons attending a regulated premises or part of a regulated premises that has been conditioned out of the mandatory ID-scanning requirements will not be required to present their ID for scanning. Apart from those proposed exemptions, the ID-scanning requirements will not apply to certain classes of licensed premises exempted by regulation, for example, those classes of licensed premises considered low risk unless a premises within the class is otherwise conditioned by the commissioner.

The final point of clarification sought by the committee relates to whether a cross-reference in section 602W(1) of the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 is correct. I can confirm that the cross-reference in section 602W(1) to section 602T is incorrect and I will be moving an amendment during consideration in detail of the bill to correct the reference to section 602U.

Additionally, I will also be moving a number of other amendments during consideration in detail of the bill which I will outline briefly to the House. In terms of commencement, the bill currently provides for the majority of provisions to commence on a day fixed by proclamation. After further consideration, it has been determined that those number of provisions can instead commence on assent or on a particular date to expedite the government's implementation of the Safe Night Out Strategy. In terms of the amendments to the Liquor Act, I will also move a number of additional amendments in relation to the ID scanner provisions for clarity. Mandatory networked ID scanners in safe-night precincts are a key component of the Safe Night Out Strategy. Therefore, the government

is keen to ensure that the ID-scanning framework is workable and sufficiently flexible to cater for the range of different types of premises and operating circumstances that may arise.

To that end, it has considered feedback from the Safe Night Out Strategy implementation panel, which is chaired by the honourable member for Brisbane Central, Mr Robert Cavallucci MP, as well as from other stakeholders. In light of their comments, I will propose a number of amendments to the bill, including amendments to clarify that the compulsory ID-scanning requirements will be imposed only for regulated premises on days that the regulated premises holds an approval to trade past midnight; the compulsory ID-scanning requirements will not apply to those licensed premises that have an extended hours permit, which is a permit of temporary duration; minors ordinarily allowed under the Liquor Act to be on a licensed premises, for example, for employment purposes, persons attending a function in a regulated premises and persons wishing to consume a meal in an area normally set aside for dining in a regulated premises will not be required to have their ID scanned; persons re-entering a regulated premises on the same night will be required to present their ID for scanning; approved ID scanners will be able to record only certain permitted information; approved operators will be able to share the banning details of a regulated premises with the commissioner, the police and other regulated premises; and the commissioner may have regard to a number of matters in deciding whether an applicant is suitable to be an approved operator of an approved ID-scanning system, including whether the applicant has the requisite skills, knowledge and experience to operate an approved ID-scanning system.

I will propose amendments to the bill that will additionally provide the commissioner with the power to issue a direction to a responsible person to alter, adjust, repair or maintain an approved ID-scanning system. I also intend to propose amendments that will provide the commissioner with the power to immediately suspend an approval relating to an approved operator, ID scanner or ID-scanning system if harm may be caused to members of the public if urgent action to suspend the approval is not taken.

In relation to noise, which is a matter that I know concerns a lot of members of parliament who write to the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation and to me about noise emanating from particular premises, I will move amendments in consideration in detail to enable the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation to take appropriate action in response to unreasonable noise emanating from licensed premises. Many Queenslanders are frequently subject to unreasonable noise from venues and the OLGR has faced difficulty in addressing the offending noise owing to limitations in the legislation. I will move amendments to allow the OLGR to stop all offending noise at the source until such time as proper and professional noise attenuation work can be carried out at the premises. I will also move amendments to link the issue of an order to stop noise directly with the existing licence conditioning process under the Liquor Act. Although these are new amendments, they are consistent with the provisions in the bill and the strategy as they reinforce the obligations of licensees in preserving the amenity of the surrounding area.

A new amendment will also be moved in relation to commercial special facility licences. This is a technical amendment intended to clarify and confirm that commercial special facility licences trading beyond midnight since 1 January 2009 are, and have always been, required to hold an extended trading hours approval and pay the associated risk criterion fee. A number of procedural and technical amendments are also proposed to address potential issues in the bill or to aid implementation. I will move additional amendments to address the transition of licensees to the new nightclub licence; to provide guidance for the treatment of on-hand applications; and to allow for the continuation of late-night trading hours for restaurant and cafes if an alternative licence application is made. Minor amendments will also be proposed to clarify the operation of the new provisions in relation to responsible service, supply and promotion of liquor and preservation of the amenity and provide for transitional arrangements in relation to eligibility for exemptions from the Liquor Act. Additional transitional provisions will be moved to provide clarity as to how actions against licensees and permittees for contravention of the Liquor Act will be dealt with if they relate to matters that occurred prior to the commencement or if the commissioner was partway through a disciplinary action process at the time of commencement.

I will also propose amendments during the consideration in detail to some minor criminal law reforms, in particular to relocate the new Criminal Code offence of unlawful striking causing death from existing chapter 28 of the Criminal Code to a newly created chapter 28A. Chapter 28A will be specific to the offence of unlawful striking causing death. Of course, when I talk about unlawful striking causing death, I am talking about coward punches. This is a technical amendment to ensure that the new offence operates appropriately within the existing framework of the Criminal Code. The new offence of unlawful striking causing death will also be amended to make clear the meaning of the

phrase 'to unlawfully strike a person'. There will be other consequential amendments across the bill as a result of the relocation and renumbering of the offence.

There are also some minor and technical amendments to be moved regarding the reforms under the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 to enhance the drafting of those provisions. Further, a reference to the circumstance of aggravation underpinning the new mandatory community service order regime established by the bill will be included in each of the prescribed offences of violence to which that new regime is to apply. This is a drafting issue to ensure clear cross-referencing.

In relation to police powers, I will be seeking to amend the sober-safe centre trial provisions contained in clause 113 of the bill to ensure that the manager of the centre does not have to issue a cost-recovery notice where it is unlikely that the charge will be able to be recovered from the person. I will also be seeking an amendment to allow a person to apply to the Commissioner of Police for the waiving of the cost-recovery charge if the payment of the charge would cause the person financial hardship. Amendments will also be moved to clarify that a police banning notice without a photograph attached can be distributed in the same way as an imaged order may be distributed under part 5B of chapter 19 of the PPRA.

The violence has to stop in Queensland. Too many Queenslanders have suffered the devastating effects of drug and alcohol related violence and coward-punch incidents. It is time that the minority of people who think that it is okay to get drunk and throw a punch take responsibility for their actions and understand that their actions are not tolerated by the Queensland community and are certainly not tolerated by this government.

Unlike the opposition—who woke up one morning with a thought bubble; a magic silver-bullet solution, they said—we have looked at this issue of how to best address alcohol and drug fuelled violence over the last two years. When I became Attorney-General we inherited the drink-safe precinct trial that was established by the former government. We always said that we supported the drink-safe precinct model which focused on increased high-visibility policing, rest and recovery services and collaboration between licensees, businesses and local and state government agencies as part of the place based management approach. We extended the trial through a thorough and proper evaluation when it was undertaken, the parameters of which were established by the former government. I travelled the state and met with local governments, drink-safe precinct boards and visited two of the three precincts in Surfers Paradise, Fortitude Valley and Townsville to see what was happening on the ground. I travelled to New South Wales. I met with state ministers to talk about what they were doing to address the issue. I did a tour of Newcastle to see what they have done—the so-called Newcastle solution which many people talk about but not many people actually understand.

If we compare and contrast what we have done as a government, I visited Newcastle during consultation with the Queensland community. The Labor Party, in contrast, announced its policy and then visited Newcastle without due consideration, without due thought, as to the whole issue and coming up with a collaborative government approach to the issue of alcohol related violence. The Newcastle solution is a solution for Newcastle, not for Queensland.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr Robinson): Order! Members on my left, you can get on the speaking list. The Attorney-General has the call.

Mr BLEIJIE: Talking about speaking lists, I note the shadow Attorney-General is not on the speaking list. I thought the shadow health minister would have taken a particular interest in alcohol and drug related violence, but I note the de facto shadow health minister is on the list to speak. I look forward to that.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Those on my left, the Attorney-General has the call.

Mr BLEIJIE: In Queensland we have come up with a common-sense, comprehensive strategy after talking to Queenslanders. In fact, it is the most comprehensive strategy dealing with alcohol and drug related violence in this country—more than Newcastle and more than Sydney. If we look at the New South Wales solution, we see through media reports a decrease in violence in the CBD but an increase in violence in the suburbs. The silver-bullet solution is not so silver. It is the easy solution that those opposite offer.

Mr Johnson interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the honourable member for Gregory in terms of if it happens in their back yards. It was important that we listen to Queenslanders on this issue. Let us

look at the facts. I will give credit where credit is due. The former government set up the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee that inquired into alcohol fuelled violence. We travelled the state with the Labor Party members in government at the time and looked at this issue. We came up with a bipartisan approach to the issue of alcohol fuelled violence. The former government responded by setting up the drink-safe precincts which, as I have said, we have extended from time to time and are now extending to night safe precincts, the number going from three to 15.

This issue has been debated in Queensland for many years. The former Labor government set up a parliamentary inquiry and responded with the establishment of drink-safe precincts. It was not a knee-jerk reaction, as this government's is not. The opposition, through what it perceives as popular policy, throws out these ideas without actually visiting the areas where these initiatives have been implemented. We undertook a separate review early on in our term of red tape in terms of the liquor industry and general regulations for the gaming and liquor industries with assistance from an expert panel that we established and a public discussion paper was issued to seek feedback from Queenslanders. While our legislative focus has been on red tape and reducing the administrative burden on industry, we have continued the review of the drink-safe precinct trial and looked at the various policy considerations both nationally and internationally to see how other jurisdictions have addressed the issue of alcohol and drug related violence.

The 24-month evaluation report speaks for itself. In Fortitude Valley all types of offences are down 11.5 per cent. Good order offences have decreased by 20.5 per cent and offences against police are down 29.5 per cent per weekend drinking night. Ambulance statistics also show the percentage of most relevant calls for service occurring during weekend drinking nights also decreased by 7.9 percentage points. Rest and recovery services provided for care and assistance to over 6,000 clients and close to 145,000 free waters were issued to patrons. In Surfers Paradise the results are even better. All types of offences are down by 22.6 per cent. Assaults have decreased by 23.7 per cent, good order offences are down by 24.3 per cent and offences against police have decreased by a massive 41.9 per cent. Ambulance statistics reveal that the most relevant calls for service occurring during weekend drinking nights reduced by 12.3 percentage points. Rest and recovery support services provided care or assistance to over 5,386 clients and handed out nearly 115,000 free water bottles to patrons. In Townsville all offences per weekend drinking night are down by 1.5 per cent including, in particular, good order offences, which decreased by 18.4 per cent, and offences against police are down by 3.6 per cent. There has been a decrease in the rate of assault offences by 25.3 per cent, driven in part by a decrease in the percentage of grievous serious assaults occurring during weekend drinking nights. Across the three safe precincts, non-government groups helped 16,000 patrons and handed out more than 300,000 free waters.

Those are the results and they speak for themselves. Clear evidence, strong research and evidence based policy is what is making our entertainment precincts safer for those who want to have a good night out, but also for the thousands of people who rely on the industry for employment. Earlier this year we said that we would develop a comprehensive package of reforms to deal with this important social and community safety issue. We sought feedback from Queenslanders, not once but twice, as we released a draft strategy and then the final Safe Night Out Strategy. The strategy itself focuses on three main issues: changing the culture to make everyone responsible, bad behaviour will not be tolerated and providing safe and supportive environments. The strategy is all about better prevention through education and awareness, targeted policing through ID scanners and banning orders and stronger penalties with a new penalty to address coward-punch deaths and a greater focus on drug and alcohol rehabilitation. If the members opposite have not read it yet, this is the final Safe Night Out Strategy that we developed in consultation with Queenslanders. Over 13,000 Queenslanders had a say on the Safe Night Out Strategy. It was not a knee-jerk reaction to the issues in the community; it is a comprehensive strategy developed after the government listened to Queenslanders. The people of Queensland have made this strategy through their input.

If we go through the strategy in some detail before we get into the debate on the bill today, as I said, one of the elements of the strategy is changing the culture to make everyone responsible. The strategy sets out what Queenslanders expect. Queenslanders expect the minority of people in these environments who do muck up to be held responsible for their actions. Why punish the majority of young Queenslanders who are doing the right thing for the sins of a few?

Mr Byrne interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Those on my left will cease interjecting.

Dr Lynham interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Stafford!

Mr BLEIJIE: Why punish every tourist who wants to come to Queensland to appreciate our vibrant life for the sins of a few? I am looking forward to the debate to find what research members opposite will rely on. When I finalise the debate, one question I will have for them is this: how will trading hours be the silver bullet to fix this issue, considering that most violence occurs well before 3 am in a nightclub? What do they propose to do? Do they propose to shut the clubs at midnight? Do they propose to shut down our entertainment precincts? That is a very different view to the former Labor government. I have to say that it took this issue a little more seriously than does the current opposition. The former Labor government set up the drink-safe precincts under a two-year evaluation trial and I will be releasing the results of that evaluation process.

You cannot deal with social issues by rushing in with knee-jerk reactions. There is no single solution to solve this problem. Members on this side of the House take this issue very seriously. I am the father of three. I have an 11-year-old daughter. In five or six or seven years time, either on her own account or through peer pressure from school friends, she will be experiencing night-life in Queensland. I want my daughter Taylor to be able to enjoy a safe night out. No parent wants to receive a call telling them that their child has been subjected to a coward punch or, worse, that their child has lost their life because of some thug at an entertainment precinct. The people who engage in that particular behaviour are in the minority. Therefore, we are not going to punish the majority of young Queenslanders, or any Queenslanders for that matter, who want to go out and enjoy what Queensland has to offer in our great entertainment precincts. We cannot punish the majority for the sins of a few. We are not going to make that knee-jerk reaction. This issue is too serious for that unnecessary action. The former Labor government appreciated that, which is why it did not go down the route of a silver bullet. There are no silver bullets. Every government in Australia has recognised the fact that there are no silver bullets. Governments have tried various things. In the past couple of years we have had extensive consultation and research into this issue. Not only have we looked at the 2009 inquiry conducted by the former government into alcohol fuelled violence, but also we have done research in relation to the Safe Night Out Strategy. We have developed a plan in consultation with not only young Queenslanders but all Queenslanders. All Queenslanders have had input into this strategy.

The second element of the strategy, after we change the culture, is to send the clear message that bad behaviour will no longer be tolerated in this state. We have to give the police the power and resources to do their job. We will introduce tougher penalties as part of a strong plan to deal with antisocial behaviour. We are going to introduce what I think is the best crafted offence of unlawful striking causing death, to deal with coward punches. Currently, people are not charged with murder because intent cannot be proved. At the moment they are charged with manslaughter, which makes available a series of defences. Under the new offence of unlawful striking causing death, people will be held responsible for their actions if they partake in that sort of criminal activity. We will change the laws to make it easier to prosecute licensees who disregard our responsible service of alcohol requirements. Everyone will take responsibility: the patrons, the licensees, the government agencies and the not-for-profit sector.

Importantly, the third element of the strategy is the provision of safe and supportive environments. We will set up 15 safe-night precincts throughout Queensland, starting in Cairns. Townsville has a drink-safe precinct and it will now have a formalised safe-night precinct. Other precincts will operate in the Airlie Beach CBD, the Mackay CBD, the Rockhampton CBD, the Gladstone CBD, the Bundaberg CBD and the Sunshine Coast, which other honourable members and I represent. We have seen firsthand the problems with coward punches. We have lost people on the Sunshine Coast because of coward punches. In this debate I will not let the opposition get away with saying that we do not take this seriously enough, because Sunshine Coast members know just how much it has impacted our community as people have lost their lives because of coward punches. The Toowoomba CBD will get a Safe Night Out precinct, as will the Ipswich CBD, the Brisbane CBD, Caxton Street and Fortitude Valley, the Gold Coast, the Broadbeach CBD and Surfers Paradise. A good mixture of safe-night precincts will follow.

We will facilitate improved safety conditions for venues. We will provide additional support and services for patrons, rest and recovery services, transport, amenities and lighting. Of course, we will introduce an enhanced licensing and compliance regime. In this strategy, we are going to empower communities to take charge of the issue. The safe-night precincts will not be like the drink-safe precincts, where a committee was established. There will be a committee, but it will be an incorporated association. There will be a board and members who will be representatives from licensees, government departments, local government and the not-for-profit sector. They will collaborate to come up with issues to solve these problems. The best way to solve these issues is to have everyone working together. I have no doubt that the licensees, as much as anyone, want to solve the problems. They do not want incidents happening in their clubs.

This is not a new issue to Queensland or to the globe. Honourable members, particularly those on this side of the House, will know that my uncle owned the Ettamogah pub. I grew up in a pub. Alcohol related violence was around then, as it is now. However, it has become more profound, which is why we have to deal with this issue, although not through taking knee-jerk populist decisions. We are going to look at this properly. I thank the committee, in particular, for having gone into the issue in great detail, despite the fact that one of the committee members, and it might have been the deputy chairman, was running around the Sunshine Coast saying that he had not had an opportunity to talk about the issue. Two strategies have been released, we have had community input from 13,000 Queenslanders and the committee, under the chairmanship of Ian Berry MP, has investigated this report, yet still the deputy chairman of the committee says that he has not had time to have input into it. I would suggest that this strategy has received the most comprehensive response of the many strategies undertaken by Queensland governments in the past 15 to 20 years. It has been drafted with safety in mind and with the collaboration of industry, patrons and the wider community.

Looking into the strategy a little further, I turn to the survey of Queenslanders that was conducted. In this place, we represent Queenslanders and we represent electorates. As I said, we have received over 13,000 submissions on this issue. In that survey, Queenslanders said that they are most likely to drink alcohol at pubs, clubs or private parties; patrons feel most safe getting a lift home and least safe walking; more than half of all entertainment precinct patrons have witnessed violence in and around venues and public events; 75 per cent of Queenslanders consider alcohol related violence to be a problem in the nightclub districts; 78 per cent of patrons who witnessed violence said it was between people they did not know; two-thirds of Queenslanders attend a venue or event where alcohol is consumed once a week or once a month. That is what we are being told by Queenslanders. The whole strategy is based around that feedback that we have had from Queenslanders.

When we developed this strategy, at the forefront of our minds was young Queenslanders. Young Queenslanders want to be able to go out with their friends, perhaps to celebrate a birthday, without the government telling them what they can and cannot do. That is what the Labor Party does; it is not what the Liberal National Party government does. We will make offenders take responsibility for their actions. We will have clear standards about what people ought not do when they go to premises. We will have the punishments and penalties applicable if they do the wrong thing. However, when a person goes into an entertainment district, they will know that they can have a great night out and a safe night out. That is what this strategy is about.

I suspect that the biggest element in this strategy to change culture is education. It is too late to educate young kids on the impacts of drug and alcohol related violence at schoolies. We have to go in early; we have to go in to their classrooms. The strategy mandates that we will have programs about culture, attitudes and social expectations of alcohol consumption, including the risks of binge drinking, illicit drug use and alcohol and drug violence, available each year to every student in years 7 to 12. That has never been done before. That information will be available to students in years 7 to 12, so that when kids hit year 12 they will know the issues and risks associated with this. I talked before about my daughter Taylor. She will be in year 7 next year. My daughter will be in year 7; she is growing too fast.

Mr Berry interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Middle school, high school. She will be in year 7 next year. I am proud that as part of this government's Safe Night Out Strategy we will, through the curriculum, start talking to students about the issues of drug and alcohol related violence. But it is not just the school's responsibility; there is a parental responsibility too. Sally and I will do what we do at home. We will raise the kids to the best of our ability. Even though there are external forces, such as from friends and those they hang around with, I am satisfied that when my daughter goes into year 7 she will start to get education about binge drinking from that early age that she would not have otherwise had unless the government had implemented the Safe Night Out Strategy.

I think for parents this is a great thing. Parents must not say, though, that the schools must do it all. Parents have to take responsibility for their own children. They have to teach their children about the antisocial problems associated with alcohol and drug abuse. Of course, the strategy deals with the penalties. I think they include the most comprehensive penalties, including penalties for licensees who do the wrong thing.

Colleagues may have read in the newspaper recently reports about the mystery shopper process. That is about making sure that not only liquor and gaming officials go into premises but also people who are not known to the industry or licensees go into premises and deliberately try to catch

those who are not serving alcohol responsibly. Nothing will work on its own. Nothing will work in singular isolation. But this plan will work when it comes together.

I think what we have developed over the last couple of years is pieces of the puzzle. Once pieces of the puzzle come together they develop the Safe Night Out Strategy. If anyone around Australia has looked at our strategy compared to other strategies, they would come to the conclusion very quickly that this is a comprehensive strategy—probably the most comprehensive strategy—in Australia dealing with these issues.

In terms of education, we have already taken up that opportunity. We have already started a targeted media campaign of television, radio and print advertisements with the message that we are red carding antisocial behaviour. Members may have seen the advertisements on TV and in print and heard them on the radio. We are red carding antisocial behaviour.

Dr Lynham interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the member for Stafford who says, ‘Yes, that will work, Jarrod.’ We take this issue seriously. As I have said over the last 40 minutes, nothing will work in isolation. This is part of a strategy. This will not work in isolation—we know that. In terms of educating young Queenslanders, when we allow them the opportunity to see this sort of thing on social media sites and have it in their face, when we add the education that we are going to start next year for students in year 7, when we add the responsibility that they have when they are in our safe-night precincts, when we add community ownership of the issue at the safe-night precincts then we will have a real plan to tackle alcohol and drug related violence.

Can I pay tribute today to people like Ross Thompson and the Queensland Homicide Victims Support Group for their strong advocacy and support on these issues, including the One Punch Can Kill campaign, which has been quite successful in its own right. I also acknowledge Paul and Kay Stanley who lost their son Matthew in 2006 to alcohol related violence. While these laws will not bring Matthew back, I can say on behalf of this House that their advocacy has contributed to measures that are aimed at preventing these types of incidents happening in the future. That is something that the Stanleys can be proud of. That is something that Ross Thompson and the Queensland Homicide Victims Support Group can be proud of.

Can I finally thank the 13,000 Queenslanders for their feedback and assistance in creating the Safe Night Out Strategy. After all, this is a state-wide strategy for Queensland designed by Queenslanders. The government is committed to preserving a diverse and vibrant night-life economy and supporting the overwhelming majority of Queenslanders who do the right thing rather than punishing them for the sins of a few. I commend the bill to the House.