




Speech By  
**Craig Crawford**

**MEMBER FOR BARRON RIVER**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 October 2015

**WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr CRAWFORD** (Barron River—ALP) (8.44 pm): I thank the member for Coomera for his kind words for our committee work. Perhaps one day he will live in hope—who knows—but he might come over to our side instead! I place on the record that I have never been told by a minister and I have never been told by a union which way any of the bills will run in our committee process and I certainly rebut that comment.

I am not about to cover the various parts of the bill that we considered. I think we have heard enough about that. I want to talk about how my career over the past has contributed to my decision tonight to support this bill in its entirety. For most of my adult life I have either been a paramedic or a firefighter and over that time I have attended so many workplace incidents it is not funny—incidents that involve people who have been murdered by robots, people who have been killed by forklifts, people who have had trees fall on them, people who have been killed by trains and by trucks. You name it, if it has wheels and if it goes to work it will kill you. I have attended to people who have been burnt to death, people who have been stabbed and police officers and paramedics who have been assaulted, stabbed and spat on. I could go on and on and on. What drives me is that whilst one person goes to work and does not come home we cannot say that we have an adequate system, because we do not. As a government we must put in any measure we can to ensure that people who go to work come home. Nobody goes to work to die, and I credit that comment to the member for Kallangur because I heard him say it before I got up. Sorry if I stole your line.

**Mr King:** That is all right.

**Mr CRAWFORD:** To look in the eyes of a worker's family member and tell them that their husband is dead is one of the hardest things I have ever done, and I have done that. That is what drives me tonight to support this bill, and I trust my colleagues on this side of the House will do the same. I commend the bill to the House.