




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Fatality Free Friday

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (8.41 pm): I take this opportunity of the adjournment debate to alert the House to a special day where each and every Queenslanders has the ability to make a difference to our road toll. I am asking every member of the House to join me in taking the pledge for Fatality Free Friday on 29 May 2015. Before I explain the pledge, let us examine the program. In 1981, despite a much smaller population, almost 600 Queenslanders died on our roads. Reducing this road toll has been a bipartisan goal of this place. Together over this time we have made a difference. Together we have reduced the toll and together we can go further. This is our bipartisan goal.

It is a bipartisan goal because the pain and loss caused by these deaths knows not how you mark your ballot paper but merely that you were loved and now missed. It is a bipartisan goal because so many of us here have had to sit and comfort a family that has experienced this pain firsthand. Indeed, for some of us it may be our family who is in need of this comfort and who has experienced this loss. This year in Queensland already 91 Queenslanders have died on our roads. We all know that this is 91 deaths too many. This time last year the QPS reported that there were 14 fewer deaths. Reducing this is our collective bipartisan goal. This is difficult but I am disappointed that any member would ever come into this place and attempt to score cheap political points over this gap. Real representation would confirm this to be our bipartisan goal.

I turn now to what we can do. Looking at the website www.fatalityfreefriday.com, there are nine days, three hours, 16 minutes and 26 seconds left for members of this place and other Queenslanders to take the pledge. They can do that at www.fatalityfreefriday.com. On that specific day we can raise awareness to make a special effort to drive especially safely on Friday, 29 May 2015.

Madam Deputy Speaker, I urge you to join me and 101,401 other Australians to take this pledge. We can take the pledge to drive safely. By taking the pledge we will be promising to remind our family, friends and workmates to take extra care on the roads; to put our lights on for safety; to be mindful to drive safely and to follow the road rules; to not speed and to not drink and drive; to take care at level crossings; to slow down in the wet and to drive to suit the conditions. Fatality Free Friday is a community supported organisation sponsored by socially aware corporations, and by signing the pledge we can all make a difference to our road toll.