



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY**

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Record of Proceedings, 3 June 2015

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Motorcycle Safety**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (2.35 pm): As we head towards another long weekend, it is timely to remind motorists and motorbike riders of the need to take extra care on the road. The tragic loss of lives over the Easter holiday period was the worst, sadly, in 20 years. We must do all we can to turn these terrible statistics around.

So far this year we have had a spike in motorcycle fatalities, with double the number of deaths compared to the same time last year. To combat this, the Palaszczuk government has launched a motorcycle safety campaign to remind riders of the need to mind those bends. We have ads running on TV, radio, online and at cinemas, all geared towards motorbike riders who are among the most likely to be seriously injured or killed on our roads. Motorists will also see utes with billboards carrying the road safety message. These measures are backed up by an online riders guide where motorbike riders can go to brush up on their skills.

This road safety campaign was one of a number of recommendations from our Safer Roads, Safer Queensland forum held here in Parliament House in April and the steering committee that worked on it subsequently. I thank all of those participants and stakeholders for their contributions.

We are also looking at reforms to motorcycle licensing. Everything is on the table—off-road practical prelearner training and assessment, a review of the learner licence period for motorcycle rides and an evaluation of the skills riders should have as they move from restricted to unrestricted licences.

Then there is the road itself. This year we are spending more than \$8 million across Queensland on projects to improve road safety for motorbike riders. These funds will be spent on known motorcycle black spots. We are removing trees too close to the road to give better visibility. We are putting up crash protection barriers and roadside warning signs. We are installing a number of flashing signs that tell riders and drivers when they are speeding.

Road safety is everyone's responsibility. But if it is left just to governments alone it will never work. We must all work together to stem the needless loss of lives on our roads.