




Speech By  
**Nikki Boyd**

**MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

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## **DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE PROTECTION AND ANOTHER ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Miss BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (5.25 pm): I rise today to make a very short contribution to the debate on the Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Act Amendment Bill 2015. I think I might start off where the member for Caloundra left off in acknowledging the contributions that people have made not only today with this bill but also with other domestic and family violence legislation before the House. Not only have we heard from the member from Aspley today, but in the past we have heard from the member for Pumicestone, the member for Ferny Grove, the member for Redlands and a number of other honourable members in this House. Their contributions demonstrate to us how poignant it is to act in this space at this time.

When I acted as Deputy Speaker for the youth parliament here in this place a couple of months ago, I was able to experience a number of our youths make personal contributions. What struck me was that the majority of those contributions talked about violence in one form or another: sexual violence, domestic violence and assaults. This is something that we must act on now. That is why this bill is so important. Of the 140 recommendations in the *Not now, not ever* task force into domestic violence, this implements three of them: recommendations 91, 117 and 129.

There are four main objectives to this bill, and the first one deals with cross-applications and ensuring that, when there are conflicting allegations of domestic and family violence in civil applications for protection orders, the courts are identifying and protecting the person who is most in need of protection. Ouster conditions are the second component to this legislation, so that is increasing protections for victims of domestic and family violence and minimising the disruption to their lives by requiring the court to consider imposing a condition excluding the perpetrator of domestic violence from their home regardless of their gender.

Thirdly, we are looking at impact statements and recognising the importance of victims of domestic violence being able to express their views and wishes in relation to decisions under the act. This is a really important point that I want to pick up on. In saying that, I also pay my respects to the member for Brisbane Central and the member for Lytton, who subbed in for me on this committee. There were meetings and hearings that I could not attend while this bill was under consideration, so I thank those members for doing an outstanding job with the committee work.

I also want to pick up on the commentary today from many speakers, particularly the minister, around the impact statements. Clarification in that space, as opposed to the committee recommendations, I think is terribly important.

The fourth thing this bill does is clarify that the use of body worn cameras by police acting in the performance of their duties is lawful. We heard from the QPS at an earlier hearing. We got to see a body worn camera. That was pretty exciting; I definitely enjoyed that. To actually see and hear firsthand how these devices are used, the difference they have made and the fact that so many of our police men

and women have actually gone out and purchased these devices themselves, rather than have them provided, showed us what an appetite there was to use them and have more of them. This bill has four very important components.

I thank all of the members and the chair of the committee. We currently have quite a number of different bills and inquiries before us. I also pay my respects to the really essential support staff we have on the committee. They do a terrific job. Carla, Lucy and Karl, I thank you. I commend this bill to the House.