




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Road Safety Week

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (10.05 am): Next week—22 to 28 August—is Road Safety Week. It is an opportunity for all Queenslanders to be directly involved in making our roads safer. I am delighted to announce that I will be officially launching Road Safety Week this Sunday with a new road safety campaign called 'My road toll'. I do not want to give too much away before the launch, but it involves Queenslanders who have been affected by road trauma sharing their harrowing and deeply personal stories. The ads are emotional and extremely powerful. I look forward to launching them this weekend.

This year's Road Safety Week theme is 'Speak up for road safety'. Schools, workplaces, community groups, individuals and families will be supporting road safety by hosting events, having conversations about staying safe, sharing personal stories, suggesting a safety tip or making a pledge to improve their driving behaviour. Events will be held throughout the state, including public road safety expos in Cairns, Townsville and Logan, an afternoon tea for grey nomads at the Rockhampton Caravan and Camping Show, a breakfast and school event organised by the member for Bulimba, a morning tea for emergency service workers organised by the member for Thuringowa and the CARRS-Q Community Engagement Workshop in Brisbane.

Road Safety Week is not just about participation and discussion; it is also about encouraging the community to challenge the road toll status quo. Let us stop accepting death and serious injury as part and parcel of using our roads. As road safety minister, I am shocked at the number of road fatalities still happening because a seatbelt was not worn. What I say to Queenslanders is buckle up every time; it will save your life in a crash.

The Palaszczuk government, through our Road Safety Action Plan, is committed to a vision of zero road deaths and serious injuries, but this ambitious vision will only be possible if everyone in our community plays their part. We cannot do this alone. It is only by working together that we can reduce the burden of road trauma in our communities. I would encourage all Queenslanders to speak up, be heard and let us all make Queensland's 2016 Road Safety Week an important event in our community's calendar to drive the number of road fatalities and crashes in our state down.