




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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TACKLING ALCOHOL-FUELLED VIOLENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; LIQUOR AND FAIR TRADING LEGISLATION (RED TAPE REDUCTION) AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (12.27 am): I rise in support of the Tackling Alcohol-Fuelled Violence Legislation Amendment Bill. Enough is enough. We must act now to reduce alcohol related violence in our community, and the evidence is clear on how we should act. When you limit the alcohol, you limit the violence. That evidence has been clearly articulated in this debate by the Attorney-General and other speakers supporting this bill, so I will not go further in restating that evidence to the House tonight. We know that based on international, interstate and local examples a reduction in the hours that liquor is served works. It reduces assaults, it reduces violence and it creates a safer night-life environment which leads to a more vibrant entertainment precinct.

The experts say that these measures work. The experts say that these measures will reduce alcohol related violence, but there are others who also support the principle underpinning these measures. In 2010 the members for Hinchinbrook, Kawana and Mermaid Beach were members of a parliamentary committee that inquired into alcohol related violence. In the committee's final report, report No. 74, the committee recommended, among other things, that a statewide 2 am lockout should apply to all licensed venues. That sounds very similar to the proposed statewide 2 am last drinks proposal contained in this bill. Perhaps those members—the members for Hinchinbrook, Kawana and Mermaid Beach—can explain to the House why their position has changed. In 2010 the member for Southern Downs said—

I believe that we should be seriously looking at trading hours so that we can clean up some of those areas before we have people walking down the street when the sun rises.

Perhaps the member for Southern Downs can explain to the House why his position has changed.

Let us also hear what people in my community are saying, that we need to create a safer community. Kelvin, who is the CEO of the largest licensed venue in the Morayfield state electorate, said, 'The Caboolture Sports Club is fully supportive of the bill.' I know Kelvin very well and I know that he wants the best for his patrons and the best for his staff. Kelvin knows that this bill will make a difference. David and Penny said to me, 'We are supportive of the proposed lockout laws. It's obvious that something needs to be done and the experience from Sydney and Newcastle would seem to be very conclusive about the benefits of these proposals.'

Then there is Gary of Morayfield, who said, 'Surely this is one where community interests must override financial interests. As a father of four young adults and teens, I want these new laws passed. If they help to save just one young life, that will be more than worth it. Let's put politics aside and get this done.' Ian of Burpengary said, 'Nothing good has ever come from pouring alcohol into your belly at 4.30 in the morning. Nothing good.' And then there is Shane of Brisbane, who said, 'Surely the

preservation of life overtakes any other consideration.' I think we should reflect on Shane's statement—
'Surely the preservation of life overtakes any other consideration.'

The expert evidence and the international, interstate and local examples prove that these proposals work. So in light of all of that, all members of this House should reflect on their consciences and stand up for a safer Queensland. All members should show courage and stand up to big liquor and vested interests. To the members of the opposition, I say do not be cowards to big liquor and vested interests, reflect on your conscience, cross the floor, stand up for a safer Queensland and be on the right side of history. There are many people who have shown great courage to ensure that these proposals have been brought to the parliament. I would like to particularly acknowledge the Attorney-General, the Minister for State Development and the Premier for their courage in supporting these proposals. I support the bill and I encourage all members to do so.