



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY**

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### **Yellow Ribbon National Road Safety Week; United Nations Global Road Safety Week**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (9.52 am): This week marks two very important events in our road safety calendar: Yellow Ribbon National Road Safety Week and the United Nations Global Road Safety Week. Tragically, there has been some sad news overnight: a fatality following a two-vehicle crash on the Brisbane Valley Highway south of Esk. My thoughts—and I am sure the thoughts of everyone in this House—are with the man's family and friends. There has also been a serious crash on the Steve Irwin Way this morning. This is why it is so vitally important to highlight road safety. We still have much to do.

The Brisbane City Hall, Story Bridge and Gateway Bridge are being lit up yellow this week, joining iconic landmarks across the country to promote road safety. Each year 1,200 Australians are killed and 30,000 injured on our roads across the country; 251 people were killed on Queensland roads last year. The impact of road trauma on our community is enormous. Every serious crash has ongoing and devastating effects for families and communities.

Yellow Ribbon National Road Safety Week is an initiative of Safer Australian Roads and Highways—or SARAH—a not-for-profit organisation that aims to improve Australian road safety by raising awareness and asking us to drive so that others survive. SARAH was established after the death of Sarah Frazer, who was killed along with an NRMA patrolman who was attending to her broken-down car on the Hume Highway in February 2012. I will be meeting with Sarah's father Peter and the police minister following question time to highlight the road safety message further.

To coincide with National Road Safety Week the Palaszczuk government is today launching the Queensland Speed Conversation, which is a document to boost public engagement and encourage conversations about speeding. Speeding kills or seriously injures about 19 people a week in our state. It is avoidable, which is why the Queensland Speed Conversation challenges people to change the way we look at speed. It outlines 21 actions to reduce speed related crashes and can be used by community organisations, schools, universities and the public to start conversations about speeding, the role it plays in road safety, and the responsibility we all have to make safe decisions about our travelling speeds. Speeding is not just about driving above the signed limit: it is also, of course, about driving to road conditions and the weather. That means slowing down to protect vulnerable road users like pedestrians, motorcycle riders and bicycle riders—I note that it is also Bike Week this week, and I acknowledge all the hard work that everyone has put into Bike Week and all the MPs who attended the Brisbane event this morning—as well as giving emergency crews and road workers plenty of space on our roadsides. After all, road safety is everyone's responsibility.