



Speech By Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

Record of Proceedings, 9 August 2017

CORRECTIVE SERVICES (NO BODY, NO PAROLE) AMENDMENT BILL

Ms BOYD (Pine Rivers—ALP) (4.59 pm): This evening I rise to make a very short contribution to the Corrective Services (No Body, No Parole) Amendment Bill 2017. As other members have said in the chamber this evening, the bill will amend the Corrective Services Act to incorporate the no-body no-parole policy to enable access for parole release for particular prisoners who cooperate with an investigation, including giving details of a victim's location. This change is viewed as an incentive for those prisoners to assist in recovering the remains of the deceased, providing families with an opportunity to grieve and properly farewell their loved ones.

Tonight the Attorney-General will move amendments to the bill and, from the contributions we have heard so far from those opposite, it seems that the amendments are largely supported. The amendments will widen the categories for eligibility to incorporate the definition of homicide offence to include becoming an accessory after the fact to manslaughter. The homicide offence will also be amended to include offences from other Australian jurisdictions that substantially correspond to a prescribed Queensland offence. Finally, there is a provision to expand the definition to apply to prisoners in Queensland who are convicted and sentenced for an offence in another jurisdiction and transferred to Queensland.

In its consideration of this bill, the committee undertook significant research to understand the policy and, in particular, how it has been enacted, in a lot of instances in the very recent past, in different jurisdictions. I thank my fellow committee members: the chair, the member for Stretton; the deputy chair, the member for Coomera, who just made a wonderful contribution to the House; the member for Capalaba; the member for Beaudesert; and the member for Currumbin. It is really lovely to have a bill before the House that does not contain a statement of reservation. As a committee, we have an awful lot of work ahead of us and behind us, as well. It is very nice to be able to stand here this evening and talk about something that has the support of both sides of the House.

I thank the committee staff who work so tirelessly on our committee business. I thank the departmental staff from both the Department of Justice and Attorney-General and Queensland Corrective Services. I thank the submitters to the process: the Queensland Law Society, the Queensland Council for Civil Liberties, the Bar Association of Queensland and, of course, Ms Fiona Splitt, about whom we have heard so much this evening. I acknowledge her and her family in the chamber. I thank her for the significant contribution that she has made in this space to bring the legislation to this point. I thank all the witnesses who attended hearings, made contributions and have worked passionately in this space for some time. I commend them for all of their efforts in doing so.