




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 8 August 2017

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL:
LEGAL AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (5.33 pm): I would like to start by also acknowledging the contribution of the committee in all of the work that they do not just during the estimates process. I know that it is a committee that has the largest legislative portfolio and a significant workload. I want to acknowledge their great work throughout the year and also the secretariat that supports the committee.

I want to acknowledge the tremendous work of the staff from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General in the preparation for estimates. An incredible amount of work goes on. Even those on the other side who have been ministers know how much is involved in that. I also acknowledge the staff with the Department of Education and Training. I thank both those departments for their assistance in the preparation for estimates and also their ongoing work. Of course, I thank my ministerial staff who work tirelessly all year long.

I listened to the contributions of those on the other side, especially those of the two shadow ministers. I have to say that when it comes to the member for Kawana and the LNP talking about commitment to training and TAFEs there is no greater hypocrisy. The LNP and the member for Kawana talked about their big policy around training. I do not think the word 'TAFE' was mentioned once in that. What a surprise, because they have no credibility when it comes to TAFE. They want to go out with a scare campaign. The problem is no-one believes it. Have a look at where our TAFEs are today and the strength of our TAFEs today and the increased opportunity for thousands of people through the support we have provided with rescuing TAFE compared to what the TAFEs were like under the LNP. The member for Mansfield only raised two issues. When dealing with the huge portfolio of JAG he raised only one issue in his estimates speech tonight and that is around youth justice. Nothing else was talked about, but he talked about his local TAFE. I doubt the member for Mansfield talked about his local TAFE the entire time he was in government. He can go out and talk to his membership about what their future plans are with TAFE because the Mount Gravatt campus could not even get their air-conditioning fixed because QTAMA would not let them. I am eager to hear what the opposition's views are on TAFE Queensland going forward.

I listened to those on the other side about cuts to the CCC funding. I would love to see where they say in the budget there are cuts to the CCC funding. In relation to ID scanners I have to say there were very few questions. In fact, I do not think there were any questions specifically asking about the number of banning orders, how many had contravened them or whether there had been an increase in licensees. Under this government, in the last two years—

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Millar): Order! Member for Coomera, the minister is not taking your interjections. I would like to listen to what she has to say.

Mrs D'ATH: There has been an increase in the number of liquor licences granted in this state under this government, yet those on the other side would have people out there believe that these laws are actually closing down businesses. However, we have seen the number of businesses actually increase under our laws. They do not want to talk about contraventions and banning orders. They also do not want to talk about the fact that people have been stopped from entering licensed venues in the safe night out precinct in Toowoomba because of our ID scanner laws along with other safe night out precincts right across the state.

I have to pick up on those opposite when they beat their chest and brag about VLAD. We all remember VLAD. We all remember their anti-association laws. They want to talk about South Australia. There is one thing South Australia did not copy: the worst element of the VLAD being the anti-association provision. They did not pick that up, but those opposite never mention that when they talk about these things.

It is this government that is investing in training, Skilling Queenslanders for Work and TAFE Queensland. It is this government that is supporting jobs through those training programs. It is this government that is taking action on child exploitation, boiler room fraud, domestic violence, supporting victims of crime and youth justice. It is this government that is establishing an independent crime stats body and the Sentencing Advisory Council and is bringing back diversionary programs that those on the other side cut and slashed.

Tim Nicholls, the Leader of the Opposition, is all about cut, sack, sell. We never saw more of that than in training where almost 2,000 TAFE staff were cut. We saw their assets being taken off them and we saw funding cut. Those on the other side have no credibility. They had very little to say tonight in relation to this portfolio. We have a very proud history in terms of what we have delivered already for the state of Queensland in these areas.