



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**


**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 October 2017

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### ID Scanners

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (10.08 am): ID scanners in licensed venues are an important plank of the Palaszczuk government's evidence based strategy for tackling alcohol fuelled violence, and the benefits are showing. Our vibrant night-life is thriving, and clubs and police are reporting that patrons are enjoying safe nights out.

Since the laws came into effect in July, three million people have now been scanned in licensed venues in our safe night precincts, an astonishing figure which points to the thriving night-life across our state. The number of liquor licences has increased in Queensland in the past year. As of 30 June there were 8,185 liquor licences in Queensland. A year before, at 30 June 2016, there were 7,865 licences. That is an increase of 320 licences.

New licences mean new venues which means new jobs. This is a win-win for Queensland, making our safe night out precincts safer and increasing our entertainment venues across Queensland. We are seeing venues voluntarily operating ID scanners earlier in the evening because they know they keep out violent drug offenders on banning orders. What is more, we are hearing from licensed venues and communities that any weakening of these policies by the LNP would be ineffective or, even worse, would risk community safety.

On 5 October the *Gympie Times* reported that Gympie hotel and club owners are using the ID scanners even though they are not in a designated safe night out precinct. Stacey Lowe at the Royal Hotel said that the ID scanners made business easier and were great for safety. In fact, Ms Lowe said that any alternative policies to delay their use each night would not be worth the risk. Club 88 owner Paul Pilkington told the paper that ID scanners were best practice and have helped improve safety everywhere. Last night on 7 News in Mackay it was reported that police believe ID scanners have contributed to a dramatic drop in assaults this year. Club owners told Channel 7 that the ID scanners are keeping people safe and changing the binge drinking—

**Mr Bleijie** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Thank you, member for Kawana. You are in my focus group at the moment. If you persist you will get a warning.

**Mrs D'ATH:** I take the interjection from the member for Kawana. The focus group he is talking about is the people of Queensland, and they have spoken when it comes to making their communities safer.

The Palaszczuk government relies on evidence based policies to tackle alcohol fuelled violence. In the face of knee-jerk criticism and ill-conceived alternative policies by the LNP—

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** One moment, Attorney-General. Members, thank you. We will have some order.

**Mrs D'ATH:** In the face of knee-jerk criticism and ill-conceived alternative policies of the LNP, which would endanger patrons, we will continue to work with licensed venues to maintain safe, fun nights out.