




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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ADJOURNMENT

Four-Wheel Drives

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (6.18 pm): Just like the member for Clayfield and many Sunshine Coast residents, I am a keen four-wheel drive enthusiast, as are my family and children. The only criticism that I might cop is that I drive a Jeep Grand Cherokee to Fraser Island—a jeep Grand Cherokee that has had a bit of work from Ron and the team at Opposite Lock with the bash plates and the automatic lift that I have on the Jeep.

There is one thing that does scare me when my family and I go to Fraser Island and Double Island, which we love. We went on our last trip there at Christmas time. Thankfully, it was raining, because we never want to get bogged at Inskip Point. The biggest fear for a four-wheel-drive owner going over to Fraser Island is that the guys from 'I got bogged at Inskip Point' are there watching. Thankfully, at Christmas it was a bit wet, so there was going to be no getting bogged.

I also have in my Jeep Cherokee one of these little buttons that allows the driver to switch from snow to sand to mud. I know enough about four-wheel driving to know that when I go to Fraser I do not just click it onto 'sand' and then think I am all right. I know I have to lower the tyres and I know I have to have the recovery tracks and all the gear when I go four-wheel driving. Is it not a surprise that over the last few months we have had the Labor Party attacking four-wheel-drive lovers and owners—

Mr Nicholls: And small businesses.

Mr BLEIJIE:—and small businesses. Two days ago the Minister for Transport, Mark Bailey, stood up in this place and said, 'We have been interpreting the laws wrongly.' By his own admission in the press release that he issued today, he admits that he has been interpreting the laws incorrectly and he will now fix that which relates to the lift. Four-wheel-drive enthusiasts, such as those on I got bogged at Inskip Point, Four Wheel Drive Queensland, Four Wheel Drive Australia and the accessories association, have been telling the minister for months that he got it wrong and his department has got it wrong. All of a sudden at midday two days ago, he said he was going to consult over the next few weeks.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member, are you going to table that document?

Mr BLEIJIE: Yes, I will.

Tabled paper: Media release, undated, by the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Hon. Mark Bailey, titled 'Greater consistency on lift laws for Queensland 4WD owners' [\[1424\]](#).

Over the next few weeks they were going to consult. Then all of a sudden at midday today the consultation has apparently occurred—at midnight—and they are going to fix it. Hundreds or thousands of people have been issued fines by the Queensland Police Service. I ask Minister Bailey to withdraw the defect notices because those people who were issued those defect notices some months ago are now being told, by the minister's admission today, that they will be legal. I ask the minister to look at all the people who have been issued with defect notices in relation to these lifts, which will be legal in October, and immediately withdraw them. We love four-wheel drivers, and guess what? Four-wheel drivers vote.