




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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SUMMARY OFFENCES AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (3.24 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Summary Offences and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Everyone in this House should support it, if for no other reason than that our emergency services personnel—while the police are front and centre, that goes for all emergency services personnel—who turn up to do their work should not be subjected to danger because of the view held by a handful of people who are so extreme in the way they want to put their point of view across that they would bring harm to average, everyday people who are truly our community heroes who go about their work.

This bill is so limited and so narrow that it will not achieve what the vast majority of Queenslanders want it to achieve. The shadow Attorney-General has proposed two excellent amendments—it is great that the shadow police minister is pushing these so hard—that I will explain and discuss in detail. Before I do, I wish to flesh out why this bill—despite all the bluff and bravado and despite the front-page headline about the Premier cracking down and ensuring jail time—is so narrow and so targeted and fails to do what the people of Queensland wish.

Noting which members will not be speaking in this debate highlights the conundrum of those opposite. Let us look at the speaking list that has been provided. With the exception of the committee members, who have to speak to the bill, let us look at those who are making a contribution. On the list do we see the member of McConnel? No. The member for McConnel was in the chamber earlier, but she is not on the speaking list. Also not on the list are the members for Cooper, Aspley and Bulimba. Interestingly, even the member for South Brisbane is not speaking. Regional member after regional member will be making a contribution—Keppel, Rockhampton, Townsville, Mackay, Thuringowa—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms McMillan): Order!

Mr CRISAFULLI: It almost seems as though—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Thank you. That is the second time. Member, I remind you to come back to the bill. I am not sure that listing members who are speaking is relevant. Let's come back to the bill.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I will take your advice.

Mr Harper interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Thuringowa, just be mindful of my ruling.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Clearly, those who are on the list are looking to improve on their 30 per cent primary vote at the last election. That is why they are looking to get up and speak on bills that contain laws that will impact on seats far away from them. The point I make is simple: these laws are so targeted because the Labor Party is divided. Part of the Labor Party want to do what is right. The other part realise that their survival depends on a group of extreme people whose views do not align with those of the vast majority of Queenslanders, whose views do not align with those held by the constituents, ironically, of the members who are speaking on this bill. I make the point that, unless we get serious about enacting proper laws to deal with this, this will become business as usual in Queensland.

No-one should ever have their right to protest taken away from them. Likewise, no-one should ever have taken away from them the right to turn up and do an honest day's work. That is what this seeks to do. Members of Extinction Rebellion—or whatever they want to call themselves this week—have one target in mind, that is, anarchy.

Mr Watts: Anarchy.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I take that interjection from the shadow minister, because he is right: it is all about anarchy. If they were serious about making a point they would stand on the side of the road not for half an hour but for a few days, and there would be some people who respect them. There are people caught up every day sitting in traffic jams—ironically in vehicles that are idling, pumping carbon dioxide into the environment—who support action on climate change and who want to see something done about the way we manage our environment, but they are equally frustrated with the way this group is conducting itself.

I turn to the two amendments that have been put forward by the LNP—that is, mandatory jail for those who conduct multiple breaches and tougher bail law changes to reverse the presumption for bail for these people. Surely that is fair and reasonable. Surely that is a way of sending a message, because, as the law stands, there are a million ways these people will seek to get around it. I draw the House's attention to just how specific and just how targeted the definition of an 'attachment device' is to know that these anarchists will have a field day with this, because the try-hard with the tripod on Victoria Bridge would not be caught up by these laws. The chap who chained himself to a train line with a traditional lock and a chain will not be caught up by these laws. If nothing else, we must send a strong message to those repeat offenders who are using these devices and who are putting our emergency services personnel in harm's way and ensuring that the message is sent.

I conclude my contribution by pointing out to those opposite the fact that the LNP will be supporting this law and all members in this House should, because the day that the safety of emergency services personnel falls second to that of an anarchist is a sad day for society. I urge those opposite to look at the amendments that we have put forward to realise what the vast majority of Queenslanders are seeking. This has gone on long enough. This nonsense of a very small group of the same faces up to the same tricks in the same window causing chaos and madness to a capital city because of a weak response from the government must end.

The bill that is being proposed today must be strengthened. If it is not strengthened, it will achieve nothing but a short-term political reprieve for the government that needed a front-page headline to show action because of strong demand from the community across the board. The vast majority of Queenslanders will not cop it if this continues. I say to members: have a look at what is being proposed in good faith, get behind them and let us take the first step towards protecting our emergency services and bringing some law back to a group of people who are conducting themselves in a lawless fashion.