



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 June 2019

## ADJOURNMENT

### Speed Cameras

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (1.49 am): As the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, I am acutely conscious of my responsibility for the safety of Queenslanders on our roads. Owing to strong political leadership over many governments, significant road safety improvements and enforcement have seen fatality rates fall from a height of 638 in 1973 to 245 last year—a drop, on average, of 11.1 deaths per 100,000 Queenslanders to 4.8 per deaths per 100,000 Queenslanders last year—but that fatality rate is still far too high. Random breath testing, police enforcement, random speed cameras, road safety campaigns, safer vehicles and better and tougher road rules all play important roles in safer driving and fewer crashes, deaths and hospitalisations.

To be frank, although many people understand why these measures are in place, support them and drive accordingly, often due to being personally touched by the loss of a friend, workmate or family member, there are still some who do not. Last year we had 245 deaths too many on our Queensland roads. Until we arrive at zero deaths, it is clear that more reforms are needed on our roads. That requires strong, ethical leadership by governments to increase road safety, even if that means some may not like it. No-one likes getting a speeding ticket, but the fact is that speeding kills. We know that in 2018 more than 60 people died on Queensland roads due to speeding.

It was with astonishment and, I have to say, revulsion that I heard a senior Queensland politician say that if the LNP wins the next election it will completely get rid of all covert speed cameras in Queensland. Those words from the deputy leader of the state LNP opposition, the member for Everton, were most likely endorsed by the current Leader of the Opposition. Let me not mince words: this policy is irresponsible, reckless and coldly callous. After random speed cameras were introduced in 2009, Queensland's fatality rate on our roads fell. Speed cameras are an important part of reducing speeding and deaths on our roads. They may not be popular, but they are effective in preventing speeding and crashes because everyone knows they can be fined anywhere anytime. Speed cameras reduce the amount of speeding.

It is a total failure of moral leadership for the member for Everton and current Leader of the Opposition to basely trawl for votes by announcing they will reduce road safety measures that are already in place and have saved many lives on Queensland roads over the last decade. Let me be clear: banning random speed cameras would mean more speeding and more deaths on Queensland roads. That is a fact. The thought of that repulses me and should repulse every member. As the minister for over four years, I have read about too many tragedies not to stand up to this failure of leadership by the members for Everton and Nanango. I call on them to immediately repeal their stated policy to reduce road safety.

*(Time expired)*