



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Braking the Cycle**

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (6.04 pm): There is an everyday activity many of us take for granted, though I suspect we all have many and varied recollections of how we started out, and I speak of driving a car. Those early, tentative outings on the road with mum or dad or a driving instructor sitting in the passenger seat could be very nerve wracking, but that was nothing compared to the big test—the day we took our first, and hopefully last, driving test. It is such an important moment in our lives. A driver's licence provides freedom of movement but also importantly plays a vital role in employment prospects.

The reality is, though, there are members of our community who struggle to get a licence and the reason is this: it is often because they do not have access to a car to learn to drive in. There is a program called Braking the Cycle. It is a program run by the Police-Citizens Youth Club. It is about giving people access to a car so they can get a licence. It is about providing people with the opportunity to complete the 100 hours of supervised driving they need to complete before they can go for a licence.

Last week my local community celebrated the launch of Braking the Cycle at Caboolture and Deception Bay. The PCYC provides a car and a mentor to help financially disadvantaged learners log the 100 hours and get a step closer to getting their licence, and it is making a difference. I met a young woman named Bianca at last week's launch. Bianca walked into the Pine Rivers PCYC looking for activities for her young son. A conversation with the PCYC branch manager revealed that Bianca did not have a driver's licence, making her life as a single mum very difficult indeed. The branch manager convinced Bianca to take part in their Braking the Cycle program. Bianca's mentor, Trevor, worked alongside her to gain the 100 hours and then get her licence. The freedom, convenience and confidence of having a driver's licence has helped lead Bianca to securing a job and also starting uni.

I have seen the good work Braking the Cycle is doing in places like Ipswich and Toowoomba and right across our state. Now I can announce a significant development in the Braking the Cycle program at Dalby on the Darling Downs. In partnership with the Dalby PCYC, Arrow Energy has invested in providing a second learner vehicle for the Dalby program. Arrow Energy has partnered with the PCYC since 2013 and during that time more than 160 younger learner drivers have obtained their licence. Braking the Cycle is making a difference for young Queenslanders. Well done to the PCYC for supporting this program.