



Speech By Stephen Andrew

MEMBER FOR MIRANI

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JUSTICE LEGISLATION (LINKS TO TERRORIST ACTIVITY) AMENDMENT BILL

Mr ANDREW (Mirani—PHON) (12.30 pm): I rise as a member of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to speak on the Justice Legislation (Links to Terrorist Activity) Amendment Bill 2018. Firstly, I must thank my fellow committee members and the secretariat for putting together the construct of this amendment bill in a relatively short period of time.

As everyone in this chamber was recently reminded, acts of terror show little regard to borders whilst the nature and scope of these events are constantly evolving. That being the case, I believe it is in the public's best interests that we as legislators provide the police and justice system with better tools to stop these threats. Clearly, the relevant agencies need to thoroughly investigate instances of terror while preventing the alleged offender absconding or being able to participate in further terrorist activity. An important aspect is being able to detain suspects, whether they are juveniles or adults. In due course, should a conviction be substantiated there follows the ability of the justice and prison systems to keep convicted persons confined for as long as the offender presents a continuing risk. On these grounds, I commend the bill to the House.