



Speech By  
**Ray Stevens**


**MEMBER FOR MERMAID BEACH**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 March 2021

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Miami, Police Beat**

 **Mr STEVENS** (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (2.55 pm): Further to the ongoing issues created by troubled people in the Miami area, I wish to advise the House that another appalling incident has occurred since this House last sat. A Japanese person was set upon by four youths in the middle of the Miami One Shopping Centre. I am advised by the local police that the juvenile crime squad are handling the investigation, which we know will only lead to a lettuce-leaf slap on the wrist for the perpetrators because of the Palaszczuk Labor government's soft-on-youth-crime legislation. It is just not good enough for my residents of Miami. I have spoken to senior police about the possibility of establishing a police beat in the Miami One Shopping Centre to send a loud and clear message to potential miscreants, such as the police beat that they have established in the Harbour Town shopping centre.

I have contacted the managers of the Miami One Shopping Centre who say they are more than happy to assist by providing a highly visible premise to police at a peppercorn rental to play their part in addressing this increasing level of bad behaviour in an otherwise peaceful and desirable residential area. I am pleased that as recently as this week in the House the Minister for Police has confirmed the use of police beats as a strong deterrent to crime when he said that the electorate of Pumicestone was soon to get a police beat in its central area. If it is good enough for the minister to provide a police beat in the Labor electorate of Pumicestone, then surely it is good enough to supply a police beat in the Miami One Shopping Centre, which obviously is not a Labor electorate and probably never will be.

As I have noted in this House previously, the minister for public housing refuses to change her policy of putting troubled people into short-term accommodation in an unsupervised capacity. To provide a solution to this unmitigated disaster of a policy we need to provide an upgraded police presence in the area to deter unacceptable behaviour from troubled people who in many cases are not in control of their own actions. Whilst there is a police station at Broadbeach and one at Palm Beach, it is 12.7 kilometres between those two stations, which is the greatest distance between any stations on the Gold Coast. The very fact that Miami is in an isolated position for police patrols lends itself immediately to an upgraded police presence, ideally through a police beat located in Miami One Shopping Centre. I look forward to the police minister taking a proactive stance in addressing this distressing activity in my local Miami community. If there are other solutions to this pressing problem in Miami that the police can provide, my Miami community would be enormously relieved to hear about it.