




Speech By
Corrine McMillan

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2022

LEGAL AFFAIRS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Report, Motion to Take Note

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (3.29 pm): I rise to make a contribution on the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee report No. 22 titled *Inquiry into serious vilification and hate crimes*. I have a growing multicultural community, with many of the new members of my community being of Asian or Indian heritage. These families are choosing the Mansfield electorate as their home to access the outstanding schools in my community. These families value education and in many cases have migrated to our country to ensure that their children have the life opportunities that they as parents have not necessarily been afforded.

Further, my community is home to one of the largest mosques in the Southern Hemisphere. Many Muslim families also call my community home. We were all heartbroken by the event that occurred in Christchurch on 15 March 2019. I know that my local Muslim community were incredibly fearful after this event. In fact, I and other community leaders ensured our presence at their mosque for the following weeks to reinstall their confidence and to stand with them united during such a tragic period. My community is also home to the only Jewish school and Jewish community in Queensland.

I commend the Attorney-General for her review of the Anti-Discrimination Act. I commend the chair of the committee, the member for Toohey, and all members of the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee. The recommendations published in the serious vilification and hate crimes report are so important to my community.

My community witnessed recently the hurt that can be caused by divisive practices and policy positions when the Citipointe Christian College implemented their student enrolment contract. The response of my community was overwhelming. My electorate of Mansfield made their position very clear: hate and vilification of certain groups in our community will not be tolerated. This is not the Queensland that they want to see. Further, the Queensland and Australian community expressed their disgrace at the treatment of the Murugappan Tamil family from Biloela.

Hate crimes have no place in Queensland. We will make sure our laws protect our diverse community. I would expect nothing less of this Labor government than its consideration of all 17 of the recommendations made by the committee. The Attorney-General and the member for Toohey have been at the forefront of our work as a government—our work to address equity, acceptance of diversity and equal opportunity. I am confident that only a Labor government will embrace the policy settings needed for a multicultural, diverse and progressive Queensland. I am very much looking forward to contributing to the bill when it comes to the House. I commend this report to the House.