



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2022

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Child Sex Offenders, Monitoring**

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (9.52 am): Child sex offenders are among the most repugnant of all people. Any form of child abuse is intolerable, while child sexual abuse is especially sickening. Child sex offenders are amongst the most heinous of all and, as such, they deserve to be subject to the strongest and strictest monitoring and reporting regimes available. That is why this week the Palaszczuk government will introduce new legislation to further toughen laws and crack down on those who prey on our state's most vulnerable, our children.

With these new laws Queensland will have the toughest laws in the nation when it comes to monitoring child sex offenders and, in doing so, we will right a wrong of the former Newman LNP government, which reduced the monitoring periods of child sex offenders. We will do this by doubling the monitoring and reporting periods for first-time and repeat child sex offenders. With this, any predator convicted of child sex offences will be required to report and be monitored by police—

**Mr Bleijie** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The member for Kawana will cease his interjections.

**Mr RYAN:** With this, any predator convicted of child sex offending will be required to report and be monitored by police for periods of 10 years, up from five years, and repeat offenders 20 years, up from 10 years, while the most serious recidivist child sex offenders will be monitored for their entire life. These reforms will reinforce the strongest, most comprehensive monitoring laws in relation to child sex offenders in the nation. This is a very important piece of legislation. It allows our dedicated law enforcement officers to keep convicted child sex offenders under their watchful and ever-present eye for far longer than they previously could.

This week we rewrite the record and crack down on child sex offenders. This week we reverse the weak monitoring laws put in place by those opposite. This week we right their wrongs because, from this week, Queensland will have the toughest monitoring laws in the nation when it comes to child sex offenders. The Palaszczuk government will always crack down on child sex offenders because we will always put community safety first. We will cut them no slack and we will do everything in our power to better the outcomes for the community and to keep children safe.

This government is serious about community safety. That is why we have boosted and made permanent funding for the internationally acclaimed Task Force Argos and the Queensland Police Service's Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group. We have also almost doubled the number of specialist child protection offender registry coordinators and we have introduced the toughest child protection laws in the nation.

The community can be assured that the Palaszczuk Labor government is relentless in targeting those who do the most harm to the most vulnerable in our community. We will keep that promise. We will always work hard to keep Queensland children safe.