




Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**

**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 March 2023

**POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (JACK'S LAW) AMENDMENT BILL;  
POLICE SERVICE ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT  
BILL (NO. 2)**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (12.23 pm): I am truly privileged and delighted to be able to speak on a piece of legislation that will do great good. It will do great good for Queenslanders across the state thanks to the expanded safe night precincts. It will do great good for the future of young people who just want to go and have a safe night out. It will do great good for our reputation as a state where people can feel safe. I wish the circumstances in which I met Brett and Belinda Beasley were different, but I am so glad that I met them. Through their grief they have driven that good.

I want to acknowledge the contribution in recent times of the police minister. During the course of the formulation of this legislation he has come to see the decency, strength and compassion that Brett and Belinda have summoned through their loss in driving this change. It is something that the member for Nanango saw up close and personal for a long time when she was leader of the opposition. I want to acknowledge that. It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the member for Bonney, Sam O'Connor, and what he has done in working for that family and his tight-knit community—from the Rugby League club at Helensvale to his electorate. Jack Beasley was a young man who touched the lives of so many. The work Sam has done with the Jack Beasley Foundation and as a confidante of that family—selling tickets, being a shoulder to cry on, pushing them through the desire to make this legislative change—is something he should be very proud of, and so should his community.

There is an increasing frequency with which young people are carrying weapons in this state. That is deeply troubling. The fact that we are here having to debate these laws shows that there is a real issue. Hundreds of weapons have been detected during this trial. One must therefore ask what might have happened if it were not put in place. With that in mind, I make a heartfelt plea to all members in this House to adopt the amendment that has been put forward.

Jack's Law should never end. His legacy is worth more than just two years. It is a legacy that must continue indefinitely. I cannot think of a single good reason we would not want to send the message that this law should continue in perpetuity. No-one is suggesting for one moment that there should not be the requirement for a review—that is fair and reasonable—but to not send the strongest of signals that that young life mattered and that some good must come from it in the long term would be a mistake of this House.

This is change that is desperately needed. It is change that has been fought for. It is change that this trial has proven works and will work in other parts of Queensland. Because of this law, there will be other families who do not have to wake up to the news that Brett and Belinda did. It is worth more than two years. I say to all members in this House: this is the kind of change that we are elected for. Every family wants to know that when their young kids go out to a safe night precinct they are going to come

home. It is something that everybody thinks of. The knowledge that police have the tools to keep kids a lot safer is something we should all embrace. It is worth more than two years. I wholeheartedly endorse this bill and I wholeheartedly endorse the proposed amendments. I ask every member of this House to do the same.