




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Road Safety

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (10.03 am): The weekend before last we saw 10 people lose their lives on Queensland roads. Sadly, they now join the 222 people who have been killed in road fatalities over the past 12 months in Queensland. These are everyday people whose lives have been cut short and whose family and friends miss them dearly. Tragically, many of these were, in fact, avoidable.

Earlier this year the Palaszczuk government committed to bringing down the number of lives lost on our roads. We want to see no deaths on our roads. We also committed an investment of \$1.8 billion in road safety over the next four years. We got tough on penalties and enforcement, and we make no apologies for that, but we cannot do that alone. Road safety and protecting people on Queensland roads is certainly above politics.

Just last week I met with two families, Kent and Kylie Payne and Troy and Adam Postle, who had lost children and siblings, Harrison Payne and Alyssa Postle, in separate incidents where they were both passengers. Both families have been profoundly affected by their loss but have a strong desire and determination to change the culture of safety on our roads and our beaches. I look forward to working with them via their organisations the Harrison Payne Initiative and Live4Lyss.

As members of this parliament, we should take the time to reflect on how we can all make our Queensland roads safer. As the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, I receive correspondence from members from time to time requesting the department to review their constituents' fines for speeding, lack of seatbelt use and illegal phone use and lost licences. Can I say that fines are entirely avoidable. If people do the safe and responsible thing when driving on our roads, not only are they making the roads safer but they will not get fined themselves.

We use road safety cameras to promote safe driving and save lives by stopping speeding, distraction and not wearing a seatbelt—all killers on our roads. It is a tragic fact that both our regions and motorcycle riders have continued to be overrepresented in fatalities throughout this year and, in fact, every year. Every single person who is driving dangerously on our roads is putting the lives of Queenslanders at risk as well as their passengers and themselves. We must have the courage to be active against the fatal five: speeding, drink and drug driving, failing to wear seatbelts, driving while fatigued and, of course, distracted driving.

Over the next week I will be writing to each member of this House asking them to actively promote road safety in the media and on social media. I will certainly provide each member of this parliament with the resources to do that. As members, we have a duty to make sure that every Queenslanders can get home safely every time they are on our roads.