



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2023

**MOTION**

**Vehicle Theft**

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (5.05 pm): I move the following amendment—

That all words after 'House' be omitted and the following inserted:

1. notes the published crime statistics including motor vehicle theft in Queensland, including Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Hervey Bay, Maryborough and Brisbane;
2. values the views of victims of crime;
3. notes the Queensland government's record \$3.281 billion investment in policing, including \$10 million for an engine immobiliser trial in Mount Isa, Cairns and Townsville to prevent car theft;
4. notes that the LNP supported the government's strong youth justice laws, which included:
  - (a) increasing the maximum penalty for unlawful use of a motor vehicle from seven years to 10 years; and
  - (b) laws to allow the courts to declare a young person a "serious repeat offender" which can lead to longer sentences; and
5. calls on all members to support the Queensland government's strong investment of more than \$446 million into targeting serious repeat youth offenders, tackling the complex causes of youth crime and investing in community safety.'

In speaking to the amendment, I want to reinforce this government's sincere and genuine commitment to ensuring that victims of crime are supported, that they are heard—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr RYAN:**—and that they are assured that we are all on the same page when it comes to this principle of doing everything we can to keep the community safe. We just heard from the member for Burdekin who said that this is not a game. It is not a game, but we hear with the interjections of those opposite that time and time again they want to drag this serious issue—which impacts so many people's personal lives and has traumatic effects on them—down into the political gutter. They do it time and time again.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr RYAN:** The reflection here is that the member for Burdekin was heard in relative silence. He was able to make his points and he made those points, yet look at what happens whenever this side of the House gets up to talk about the thing that unites us. To use the member for Burdekin's words, it is not a game, it is not a competition. We are united on this. There is not one person better than the other when it comes to being united on this issue. We all want a safe community, and for those opposite to suggest otherwise is incorrect and it reinforces—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr RYAN:** Again, they want to drag it down into the political gutter. We are united on this in wanting a safe community.

The member for Burdekin referred to a number of newspapers today. One newspaper he forgot was the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, a News Ltd publication. Their editorial states, 'But the opposition's answer'—

**Mr BLEIJIE:** So you are about to politicise the issue, are you?

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr ACTING SPEAKER:** Order, members!

**Mr RYAN:** The member for Burdekin quoted from newspapers. I wonder if he was selectively quoting—

**Mrs Gerber** interjected.

**Mr RYAN:** I think there was some unparliamentary language there.

**Mr ACTING SPEAKER:** I will manage the chamber, thanks. Are you raising a point of order?

**Mr RYAN:** I take offence at what the member for Currumbin said and ask for it to be withdrawn.

**Mrs GERBER:** I withdraw.

**Mr RYAN:** The member for Burdekin was making his point by quoting some newspapers—selectively quoting some papers. The *Gold Coast Bulletin*, a News Ltd publication, in the editorial states—

But the Opposition's answer to how it would solve the issue appears to largely be a grab bag of tried approaches which they were campaigning on and implemented during the Newman Government era more than a decade ago. The much vaunted youth boot camp was later torn to shreds by both KPMG and the Auditor-General in a report as being ineffective, making no difference to recidivism and were prone to enormous cost blowouts presided by then attorney-general Jarrod Bleijie, now the LNP's Deputy Leader.

It goes on to say—

The LNP's approach of presenting reheated, decade-old concepts is hardly inspiring and doesn't bode well for their electoral platform in 2024.

We are united on this: everyone wants a safe community. The government is throwing everything at this—stronger laws which were supported by those opposite, more investment in policing and more investment in other resources. We all want to solve this.