




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

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**POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND OTHER LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT BILL 2022; POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND
OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2023**

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (4.31 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 and report No. 40 to this parliament of the Economics and Governance Committee of which I am a member. I thank my colleagues on that committee for the work they did as well as our secretariat for the hard work they put into that report.

Collectively, the amendments that we are talking about in this particular bill propose to: enhance the capability of the Queensland Police Service to monitor reportable offenders by lengthening the time for which an offender must report; investigate cybercrime and offences committed by reportable offenders by making certain offences relevant for controlled operations and surveillance device warrants; investigate organised crime by authorising the use of civilian participants in controlled activities in certain limited circumstances; and address the danger and disruption caused by hooning by creating additional offences and increasing penalties for certain offences. I am going to focus my attention on that last area, the hooning aspect of things.

Hooning is a massive issue on the northern Gold Coast, and I am sure other members would say it is a massive issue in their electorate as well. Because of the large areas of caneland and the large industrial areas in the state electorate of Coomera, the hoons seem to be drawn to it. Police work very hard; they do a great job, but at times their hands are tied because of the lacking aspects of the laws. So it is good news to see that we are bringing in some changes in relation to hooning in circumstances that involve speed trials, a race between motor vehicles or burnouts, for example, dangerous operation of a vehicle committed on a road in a public place, careless driving, racing and speed trials on roads, wilfully starting a motor vehicle or driving a motor vehicle in a way that makes unnecessary noise or smoke as well as evasion offences.

The Summary Offences Act 2005 is the act in question. It is intended that this bill will strengthen the hooning offences provisions in that act to create new offences that prohibit a person from willingly participating in a group activity involving a motor vehicle being used to commit a speed trial, racing, burnout or other hooning offence; organising, promoting or encouraging another person to participate in or view a group activity involving a motor vehicle being used to commit a hooning offence; and filming, photographing or publishing a film or photograph of a motor vehicle being used for a hooning offence for the purpose of organising, promoting or encouraging a group activity involving a motor vehicle being used to commit a hooning offence. The previous speaker, the member for Macalister, made the point that if someone was making a video or taking photos of a hooning event with the intention of reporting that matter to the police, they would be protected from any prosecution under this bill. It is those people who intentionally go about the videoing or photographing with the intention of promoting the event as well as possession of things that could be used for hooning that will be captured; that is also an offence.

If someone is pulled up and they have a couple of extra tyres and wheels in the boot of their car, a hydraulic jack and maybe a numberplate sitting somewhere, in the past there was nothing the police could do about those things but under this new bill they will now be able to.

All of this is designed to make it easier for police. I welcome these changes. They will enable police to better go through the process of arresting alleged offenders and putting them through the prosecution process.