




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

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CHILD PROTECTION (OFFENDER REPORTING AND OFFENDER PROHIBITION ORDER) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (4.02 pm): The Queensland Police Service tells us that the greatest risk to children throughout our state is child trafficking, child exploitation and grooming offences. These are the very matters that this bill addresses. This bill extends the prescribed offences around device inspection, allowing our Police Service to be proactive in detecting changes in offenders' risk profiles which really considers the perverse and recidivist nature of this kind of abhorrent offending. We know that through the very nature of the necessary distancing that we did through the COVID-19 pandemic that those who engage in these heinous acts have also engaged in technological advancements to prevent detection. The advancements provide new ways for child sexual offenders to engage, groom and offend against children while offenders remain in their own homes.

The parliamentary committee detailed this is occurring through masking applications which provide for exploitative material to be held in a black hole or vault within a digital device to evade detection. The eSafety Commissioner informed the committee that between the beginning of the COVID pandemic and August 2021 the Australian Federal Police's Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation identified more than 800,000 new registered accounts using anonymous platforms such as the dark web and encrypted applications solely to facilitate child abuse material. Police need to be provided with the power to monitor online activities and inspect digital devices to detect and prevent this predatory criminal behaviour. There can be no mistake just how predatory this behaviour is and can be. I have had members of my own community bravely share their victim accounts with me. In a number of cases these offences go as far as their convicted perpetrator of child sexual assault, relentlessly and continually targeting and haunting them through the internet under pseudonyms or imposter accounts.

We know offenders are behaving in these predatory ways and as their efforts evolve and increase in complexity so too must our understanding and legislative response. This legislation will make a real difference so our Police Service can prevent, respond and address current day methods of offending and, just as importantly, re-offending. That is why I absolutely support the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill to the House.

I turn now to the amendment to the Mineral Resources Act in relation to Glenden that is going through with this bill. I commend the minister on the work he has done to get this amendment so promptly before the House. Last week I was sitting in Blackall on the porch of a Queenslander—after a flight was delayed and a lovely couple invited me along to their home—when I received a phone call from Mayor Anne Baker who let me know just what a difference this amendment would make for her community. The reason that this amendment is going through with such haste is because we back rural and regional Queensland and we back the jobs that this mine has. In doing so we want to ensure that Glenden does not become a ghost town, which is why we are imposing the strict restrictions that, frankly,

were outlined already in the environmental impact statement that came in to dispute. The certainty of this mine will continue to support more than 750 good jobs in Central Queensland. They are good resource jobs. It is fantastic that we are in a position to be able to move these forward today.

I place on record my thanks to Mayor Baker and the Isaac Regional Council for their strong advocacy in progressing this. In that phone call that I had with Mayor Baker she said to me that the only thing that concerned her now was just how quickly we could legislate these amendments. I think turning them around within a week absolutely answers the call that this community has asked of us and that is certainty for Glenden well into the future, which will occur through these amendments.

This mine is a billion dollar enterprise. We know that it has the capacity to employ up to 900 people at full production. The last thing we want to see in Queensland is a ghost town. I get to travel through a lot of Queensland and visit many resource communities. There is a real difference in those communities when we have those workers embedded in those communities, when we have families that are sending their children to school and when we have sporting groups that have children involved. It is a very different community when big multimillion dollar corporations take the commitment to invest in regional Queensland and have agreements such as this one that is being legislated here today. I again place on record my sincere congratulations to the Isaac Regional Council and the really swift and decisive action that the Palaszczuk Labor government has taken in this respect because I know that this will be a great outcome for Queensland. I absolutely commend this bill and all of its amendments to the House.