



Speech By  
**Jimmy Sullivan**


**MEMBER FOR STAFFORD**

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Record of Proceedings, 6 March 2024

**LEGAL AFFAIRS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**Report, Motion to Take Note**

 **Mr SULLIVAN** (Stafford—ALP) (2.45 pm): I rise in support of the report being presented to the House today. This government has a really proud history and record when it comes to supporting victims of crime. I start by associating myself with the contributions of the members for Caloundra and Cooper, as committee members, and I endorse their contributions. I particularly thank the member for Toohey, Peter Russo, for his extraordinary work and commitment and insight into this matter. As he said, he brings considerable experience to that role in what is a very hectic and heavy workload for that committee. I think that needs to be respected. The absolute disdain that those opposite have shown for the genuine work of the committee is really disappointing. As my mum would say, 'I'm not angry; I'm just disappointed.'

The government has appointed the Interim Victims' Commissioner, with a permanent Victims' Commissioner to be appointed by the end of the financial year. Along with the Attorney-General, I met with Jon Rouse and the executive director of the Interim Victims' Commissioner, who is doing an extraordinary job. I want to recognise how dedicated he has been in engaging with the community right across this state. I think he has done eight regional visits, and I think there is another one this week or next week. That is genuine work that he is doing. That is on top of what this government has done.

We passed the Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, which significantly increased the support for victims of crime when it came to different categories. We have also extended funeral support for people—at a time when they are at their worst, when they are shell-shocked. We believe that it is at the time when people are at their lowest that they should be provided with support and funding through the government and not used as media tools before they have even had a funeral for their family member.

As we know, just this week we have passed the Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. We have passed the Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, including amendments to the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act.

**Mrs Frecklington:** The Pullen family—we will never forget them.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** What I will not forget, member for Nanango, through the chair—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Hart): Direct your comments through the chair, please, member for Stafford.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** What I will not forget is the—

**An opposition member:** The preselection.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** My preselection is done. Who was that? Was that Ray?

**Mr Stevens:** No.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** Thanks, mate—85 per cent. I will take that.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Pause the clock. Member for Stafford—

**Mr SULLIVAN:** Forgive me, Mr Deputy Speaker. I will take that back.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The member is not taking interjections, so they should cease.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** What I will not forget is the \$170 million cut from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General under those opposite—I was there to witness it—and the abolishment of the Drug Court and the Murri Court. The irony of the Leader of the Opposition's big announcement in his budget reply speech was that he was going to appoint one more person to the Queensland Sentencing and Advisory Council, but one little fact he forgot was that when they were in government they cut it. They sacked all of them, including the secretariat. That is their history when it comes to victims' representation.

**Mr Purdie:** If you cut crime you have fewer victims.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** Goodness me! There is no self-awareness at all from those opposite about what their record was in government.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart):** Pause the clock—

**Mr SULLIVAN:** Cutting those people who were tackling crime—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Stafford! Member for Logan and member for Ninderry, you are both warned under the standing orders for arguing across the chamber.

**Mr SULLIVAN:** I am sorry, Mr Deputy Speaker, I did not mean to speak over you. When you look at the Auditor-General's report into the member for Kawana's failed boot camps, the irony of this debate is that, given the absolute disdain he showed that organisation and their waste of millions of dollars, there are many people opposite today talking about how important the Auditor-General's reports are. Go and read it again. We all remember. That is what those opposite stand for. This government has a proud history of supporting victims, supporting the justice system and standing up for a fair legal profession, a decent judiciary and respect in that space.