




Speech By  
**Hon. Tim Mander**

**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 December 2024

**MAKING QUEENSLAND SAFER BILL**

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.09 pm): I rise to also speak to these amendments. What we have heard from the opposition tonight, as has been mentioned by previous speakers on this side, is an absolute disgrace and it shows absolute disrespect to victims. Those opposite are also refusing to accept the overwhelming mandate that this government received, and some would argue the reason we are sitting on this side of the House is these laws.

I heard members of the opposition carping and saying, 'Talk to the amendments'—and I will do that in a moment so people actually understand what those opposite are trying to withdraw and redraft. Why are they trying to redraw and redraft the laws? It is because they cannot accept the mandate and, secondly, because of the internal division that has happened in that party. They are trying to make out they support victims, but at the very heart of it they cannot support these laws. In their heart they cannot support these laws. It goes against everything they believe. They will not accept that the majority of Queenslanders do not agree with them and that is why they are in opposition.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Everton, I will ask you to speak to the amendment.

**Mr MANDER:** Let's look at clause 15 and see what they want to withdraw and redraft. I am saying this in the context of the member for Bulimba saying that all we went to the election with was a four-word slogan, which was backed up by the most comprehensive youth justice policy ever brought to an election campaign. Clause 15 says—

not have regard to—

- (a) any principle that a detention order should only be imposed as a last resort; or
- (b) any principle that a sentence that allows the child to stay in the community is preferable.

I do not know how many times I said—and the then youth justice shadow said it at the time, the then shadow attorney-general said it at the time, the leader and the deputy said it—that detention as a last resort will be removed. Now those opposite will not accept it; they want that withdrawn and redrafted.

**Ms Grace** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for McConnel, you are warned.

**Mr MANDER:** In fact, that principle was at the very core of our youth justice policy. That is what the public demanded to hear and what they wanted to see happen. It was at the very core. That is one principle that those opposite want to withdraw and redraft. What is the other principle that was prosecuted so strongly by the then opposition and now government? It is this one. Let's go to clause 37, which states—

A child who commits an offence should be held accountable in a way that recognises the impact of the child's offending on any victim of that offending.

Those opposite want to withdraw that; they want to withdraw the very principle that we should be thinking of victims' rights and the impact of the crime on the victim. They are not happy with that. They are in a parallel universe with regards to some of these things that they are now refusing to accept. They followed the Greens' principles and policies regarding the lunches, the petrol stations and the electricity providers. They followed the Greens then to neutralise them and now they are trying to do the same thing retrospectively. They cannot accept these laws. That is one of the very principles.

Clause 48 talks about the admissibility and use of childhood criminal history in sentencing adults. What the public cannot tolerate anymore—the public has had enough of it—is children who offend and reoffend and then once they turn 18 it is like nothing has ever happened. People cannot accept that. We have heard that.

**Mr Krause:** We took it to the election.

**Mr MANDER:** I will take that interjection from the member for Scenic Rim. We took this to the election. We were clear about these principles, about youth justice.

**Mr Minnikin:** Not for Bulimba.

**Mr MANDER:** I will take that interjection from the member for Chatsworth. The member for Bulimba has just refused to accept these. She will go down in history as one of the worst youth justice ministers that we have ever had in this parliament. We could easily argue that it was the watering down of the laws that she introduced that led to the situation we are in at the moment. This is at the very core of the laws that we have introduced. To come here tonight at the eleventh hour to say, 'We now want this changed,' is only a delaying tactic so they can work out their internal politics. That shows that their Left faction has won this argument. We will call it out every time. We know that they are not serious about dealing with this youth crime crisis we have at the moment.

We do not accept that these things were not communicated to the Queensland public as part of an election platform. It was very clear. What they are trying to do now is basically rewrite history and simply not accept that they were wrong, that they were on the wrong side of this argument and that Queenslanders were right, and that is why there was a change of government.