



Speech By


**David Kempton**

**MEMBER FOR COOK**

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## **COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND PUBLIC CHILD SEX OFFENDER REGISTER (DANIEL'S LAW) BILL**

 **Mr KEMPTON** (Cook—LNP) (5.12 pm): I rise to speak on Daniel's Law. It is every parent's hope and desire that their children will outlive them. For parents to suddenly lose a child through accident or illness is difficult to comprehend. To lose a bright young man with his whole life ahead of him in the way the Morcombe family lost Daniel is incomprehensible. As members of the public, community and society, we can but look on with compassion yet little understanding of the absolute grief these parents endured. As members of parliament, we not only owe it to the Morcombes to enact legislation that reflects the measures they seek after years of advocacy; we also have a duty to society to take all steps we can to protect our children from these horrific crimes.

Public life is about shared values. As parties we congregate around those values—values that bring about change that will make our communities and, in fact, our society a better and safer place to live. Upon consideration of this contention and the importance of the legacy the Morcombes seek to leave for all of our children, I could not in any circumstance imagine any values that would motivate any of us to come to this House and not support Daniel's Law.

The Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025 delivers on the Crisafulli government's commitment to strengthen Queensland's child protection framework; to put the rights of children, parents and families ahead of the rights of sexual predators; and to honour the tireless advocacy of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. There would be few Queenslanders who were not touched by Daniel Morcombe's story as the details of this tragedy unfolded in the days, weeks and years following that fateful December day.

Queensland is joined by Western Australia and South Australia and is soon to be joined by Tasmania in implementing a version of Daniel's Law. From the indescribable pain, hurt and ultimately loss of young Daniel, positive action is now being enacted in law that raises awareness, utilises the power of education and has guaranteed action to keep our children safe. This bill prioritises the safety of children. It ensures parents and caregivers gain access to information that helps them make informed decisions about who interacts with their children. It provides communities with knowledge and confidence that our lawmakers have not forgotten Daniel and will continue to keep our children safe and keep them from harm.

The Queensland Police Service has administered a non-public child protection register under the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004 for many years. That register is pivotal for police in monitoring offenders and preventing reoffending; however, it has not been accessible to the community and, more importantly, to those most able to protect our children from harm: their parents. Daniel's Law provides transparency to parents and guardians with practical means of protecting their families. The Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register will strengthen confidence in our justice system, it will make information more accessible, it will give families

the power to act early and, above all, it will help prevent harm before it happens. This legislation will cross socio-economic, geographic and cultural boundaries to ensure greater protection of our children wherever they live. I commend this bill to the House.