




Speech By  
**John Barounis**

**MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 October 2025

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

 **Mr BAROUNIS** (Maryborough—LNP) (5.20 pm): I rise today in strong support of the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill. This bill delivers on the Crisafulli government's election promise to further strengthen sex offender laws with the establishment of a new three-tier Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register to protect our Queensland children and put the rights of parents and families ahead of sexual predators. This public register will make information more accessible to the community and allow parents, guardians and those exercising parental responsibility to access information in order to make informed decisions about who has or will have contact with their children.

This very important bill is named Daniel's Law in honour of Daniel Morcombe. My heart goes out to Daniel's family. They have my deepest respect and admiration for their advocacy all these years. This public register will be the first of its kind within Queensland. It is absolutely critical that people living in our beautiful state have access to this information. People deserve to know if the person living next door has been convicted of such heinous crimes. As a parent and as a representative I share that same concern. I want to protect my family, my children and every child in my community from the potential risk of interaction with child sex offenders. This bill empowers communities like mine to stay informed, stay vigilant and, most importantly, stay safe.

The introduction of this legislation cannot come soon enough. Child sex offences are amongst the most heinous crimes imaginable. They destroy lives—not only the lives of the victims but also the lives of their families and loved ones. As members of parliament our foremost duty is to serve, protect and represent our communities. On behalf of all residents within the Maryborough electorate we are in strong support of this bill. I commend the Crisafulli LNP government for the introduction of Daniel's Law, the honourable ministers and committee members for their hard work and, again, Bruce and Denise Morcombe for their advocacy for all this time and for the future. I commend the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill to the House.