




Speech By  
**Kerri-Anne Dooley**

**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 June 2025

**POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (MAKING JACK'S LAW PERMANENT) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; CORRECTIVE SERVICES (PAROLE BOARD) AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Ms DOOLEY** (Redcliffe—LNP) (4.52 pm): I rise today in support of two bills: Jack's Law and the Corrective Services (Parole Board) Amendment Bill 2025. Together, they represent a turning point for community safety in Queensland, and they are particularly important to my community of Redcliffe. Residents from Clontarf, Woody Point and Kippa-Ring to Scarborough and Newport tell me one thing time and time again: they want to feel safe in their homes and safe in their streets and that their children and teenagers feel safe to go out to enjoy everything our beautiful peninsula offers. They deserve nothing less. These bills deliver on the LNP Crisafulli government's commitment. They are about putting victims first and about giving Queenslanders back their confidence in our justice system.

We in this House have all acknowledged Jack Beasley's tragic death in 2019—a senseless murder on the Gold Coast. What followed has been nothing but extraordinary from his parents. I, too, like everyone in this House, admire Brett and Belinda Beasley's incredible courage to turn their tragedy and grief into passionate advocacy.

These laws have been trialled by police to give them real powers and to prevent such horrific crimes. Jack's Law has already made an incredible difference. We have heard from multiple members the numbers of weapons that have been seized. More than 3,000 people have been charged as a result of these operations, yet knife crime in other public spaces is still rising. That is why making this law permanent and giving the police the powers they need are so important.

Belinda has said that every weapon off the streets is a potential life saved. In Redcliffe, we have known our own tragedy in knife crime with the death of Angus Beaumont in 2020—another senseless stabbing murder. I want to honour Ben and Michelle Beaumont, who have, together with the Beasleys, fought for justice for their Angus. Through their combined passionate parent advocacy these laws were introduced. Members in this House have listened to them.

I have heard firsthand from the police in Redcliffe and Moreton Bay about how these powers will empower them to intervene before tragedy strikes. We know that hotspots in Redcliffe like Kippa-Ring train station, the Redcliffe Jetty and even during events at Dolphin Stadium could benefit from police having proactive wandering powers, keeping knives off our streets and out of events before harm is done.

I want my community to know that I will stand with them and fight for these laws before other lives are lost. These laws will save lives. This bill cuts red tape, makes laws permanent and makes sure that police officers do not have to jump through bureaucratic hoops.

We have a lot of experience amongst members on our side of the House with six former police officers and 168 years of combined police experience. The police minister, himself a former detective, said, 'We will not stand by while innocent lives are lost.'

However, protecting our community does not stop with knife crime. It also means making sure that dangerous offenders who breach parole or who pose an unacceptable risk to community safety are taken off our streets. That is exactly what the Corrective Services (Parole Board) Amendment Bill 2025 does. Right now, if a prescribed board member of the Parole Board decides to suspend someone's parole and put them back in prison, the law requires that decision to be checked by the full board within two days. However, if that same board member decides to leave the offender out in the community, there is no requirement for review. Just think about that. Labor's laws ensured that the rights of prisoners were protected over the rights of the community. That is just wrong. This amendment will ensure that the Parole Board is crystal clear and there is no gap. This gap will be closed with this amendment.

Why is this important for Redcliffe? Because when families go to Scarborough Beach for fish and chips on a Friday night or when parents let their kids walk to school, they deserve to know that someone with a serious risk history is not walking free among them. This bill is about fairness, consistency and, most of all, community safety.

I have spoken with a lot of families. As chair of Redcliffe Crime Stoppers, many who felt unsafe in their own home came to us. I have spoken to business owners who have had their shopfronts broken into multiple times. That is why they voted for a mandate with the Crisafulli LNP government to bring in Adult Crime, Adult Time—taking action, not excuses. That is what these two bills provide. They put community safety ahead of criminals' rights; empower police to do their jobs without excessive red tape; fix Labor's legislative failures, ensuring full reviews of parole decisions; and, most importantly, they save lives.

With these reforms, Queensland will have nation-leading laws in place when it comes to knife crime, alongside strong and sensible parole powers that put Queenslanders first. As Shane Prior, President of the Queensland Police Union of Employees, said—

It has empowered our police ... to go out into the community and seize these weapons when they should not be there in the first place.

In conclusion, the people of Redcliffe, like all Queenslanders, deserve a government that does not just talk about being tough on crime but takes decisive, meaningful action to keep people safe. That is what we are delivering here today with Jack's Law and the Parole Board amendment bill. On behalf of my community, I am proud to support these reforms and I commend the bills to the House. Let's stand together for safer streets, safer families, a safer Redcliffe and a safer Queensland.