




Speech By
Hon. Laura Gerber

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Record of Proceedings, 11 December 2025

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Youth Crime

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (2.28 pm): It has been a busy year of delivery for the Crisafulli government. Each and every day we have focused on putting victims back at the heart of the justice system and reducing the number of Queenslanders falling victim to crime. Our youth justice reforms are starting to turn the tide on Labor's youth crime crisis. Victim numbers have dropped by 6.5 per cent and serious repeat youth offenders are down 16 per cent.

Contrast this with the decade of decline under the previous Labor government, which led to a record number of victims of crime and the number of serious offenders increasing by 64 per cent under Labor. Why? It is because the former Labor government weakened our youth crime laws and created a generation of repeat youth offenders. Let's not forget that Labor's botched laws also left hardcore adult offenders in youth facilities for months after they turned 18—all while 94 per cent of youth offenders released from detention under Labor reoffended within 12 months.

During Labor's decade of decline, robbery increased by 100 per cent, the number of stolen cars increased by 91 per cent and the number of youths charged with stolen vehicle and robbery offences tripled. They sat on their hands while the number of youths stealing cars skyrocketed and break-ins nearly doubled. We promised Queenslanders we would continue to strengthen our youth crime laws, and that is exactly what we are doing. We passed the Making Queensland Safer Laws—

Opposition members interjected.

Mrs GERBER: I hear them chirping because we know they did not support Adult Crime, Adult Time when it was first introduced. We know they tore themselves apart. The question for them is whether they will continue to support our strong youth crime laws. They removed detention as a last resort, they removed the offence of breach of bail and they closed the Childrens Court to victims, their families and the media. With our Making Queensland Safer Laws we have ensured that the rights of victims are back at the heart of the criminal justice system.

We are making Queensland safer with our early intervention measures and rehabilitation. The first cohort of at-risk teens is taking part in the many intensive Regional Reset camps happening right across the state. For the first time, youths exiting detention get 12 months of support. Under the previous failed youth justice minister, youths would exit from detention with no support. Some of the most serious repeat offenders did not even get their flimsy 72 hours of support. We are making strong progress to restore safety to Queensland communities.

On this last sitting day of 2025, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone across the Currumbin electorate, whom I am so privileged to represent in this House. It has been a huge year of

delivery for the Crisafulli government. I love being the voice for Currumbin. Despite Labor on the other side of the chamber continuing to put Queensland down, the Crisafulli government will continue to deliver.