




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

Record of Proceedings, 12 June 2025

HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (7.57 pm): I want to thank the minister because in the last couple of months he has not got in the way of Labor's anti-vaping laws put in place on 1 October. I am glad that he has not got in the way, but he really should recognise that they were Labor's laws which were put in place and came into force on 1 October. Not many on that side have recognised that. They should also have recognised that much research has gone on in previous parliaments. The new member may not have been aware of all of the work that had gone on before, including that these are Labor's laws. I congratulate all of you who said how good our laws are.

I support the amendments to the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act. I support them, just as others have done, for a variety of reasons. We have seen members support these bills because they do not like the fact that vapes have bubblegum flavours aimed at attracting children. I did not see that in the explanatory notes. It is a perfectly normal practice for members to bring their own experience about why they support the bill. Equally, people who are concerned about the nature of the disposal of goods could give that as the reason they support the bill. Indeed, it is mentioned in the explanatory notes. In the explanatory notes it says that vaping goods are highly flammable. The only part of those goods that is highly flammable is the lithium ion battery, often cheaply made by dangerous manufacturers. A very good reason members would support this bill is that the disposal of those products is problematic.

If there are more of them in our society we will have more of them being disposed. This is a perfectly valid reason. If only we had received a submission from someone who had experience in waste management that we could perhaps quote, but I would not dare to do that because it would be seen as being outside the long title of the bill.

I am passionate about the proper disposal of these dangerous goods. That is why I support this bill. I note it says here—

The presence of lithium-ion batteries, which can overheat, leak, or explode under certain conditions ...

This is a really good reason to support the bill—

Dr ROWAN: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order with respect to relevance. We have had a number of rulings in relation to these matters and I draw your attention to those previous rulings.

Mr POWER: Respectfully, I am reading directly from the explanatory notes. It is on page 2 at the bottom for the benefit of the Leader of the House.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr O'Shea): Member for Logan, it is now eight o'clock. I ask you to take your seat, thank you.

Mr POWER: I am being guillotined, but we have been guillotined all night by the health minister.

Dr ROWAN: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I submit to you that that was disorderly conduct and also a reflection on the chair.

Mr POWER: My apologies, Madam Chair, if I made any reflection or if I was in any way disorderly.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Under the provisions of the order agreed to by the House and the time allocated for this stage of the bill having expired, I call the minister to reply to the second reading debate.