



Speech By  
**Martin Hunt**


**MEMBER FOR NICKLIN**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 October 2025

**PRIVATE MEMBER STATEMENT**

**Daniel Morcombe Foundation**

 **Mr HUNT** (Nicklin—LNP) (2.03 pm): As many have this week, I rise to pay tribute to Bruce and Denise Morcombe and to acknowledge the incredible work of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation which continues to be proudly based in my electorate of Nicklin at Daniel House in Palmwoods. This Friday marks the 21st Day for Daniel—Australia's largest national day of action for child safety. What began as a local walk in Palmwoods to honour Daniel's memory has grown into a movement embraced by schools, communities and families right across the nation. Each year, Australians wear red, learn about child safety and remember a young boy whose story continues to inspire and protect others.

Every Day for Daniel carries a powerful message that child safety is everyone's responsibility. Of course, this year will be especially meaningful. At last year's walk, which just happened to fall on the day before the last election, I made a promise to Bruce and Denise. I told them, were I to be elected, I would fight alongside the LNP to deliver a public child sex offender register for Queensland. To be able to return to Palmwoods tomorrow having kept that promise through the passage of Daniel's Law through the parliament this week will be something truly special.

I first met Bruce and Denise Morcombe back in 2017 when I was a police officer and I had the privilege of joining them for the very first Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson. I saw firsthand the difference it made. It is a simple, engaging and empowering program that gave children the tools to stay safe. Since then, that initiative has evolved through the technology available to us today to reach more children in more schools. Another lesson has just been released for Day for Daniel tomorrow.

It is an extraordinary example of how innovation and purpose can combine to make lasting change. The Daniel Morcombe Foundation stands today as a symbol of hope, education and community strength. From Daniel House in Palmwoods, their team continues to lead the way in child safety education and support for victims of crime. Their impact is national, but their heart remains in our Sunshine Coast hinterland community at Palmwoods.

To Bruce and Denise, and everyone at the foundation: thank you for your courage, thank you for your persistence and thank you for your unwavering dedication to making Australia a safer place for children. This 21st Day for Daniel will be a very special one—a moment to celebrate how far we have come and to honour the legacy of a young boy whose story continues to make a difference every single day.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr McDonald): Before I call the next member, I place on record my thanks to the member for Nicklin for his work with the Morcombes and the foundation. Good luck tomorrow.