



Speech By  
**Rebecca Young**


**MEMBER FOR REDLANDS**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 October 2025

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

**Second Reading**

 **Mrs YOUNG** (Redlands—LNP) (3.58 pm): In the Redlands, our community has always looked out for one another. We are a community built on trust—where families, schools and neighbours share the belief that every child deserves to grow up safe, supported and protected. That is why this bill, the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025, matters. It gives parents and carers the right to make informed decisions about whom they allow around their children. It puts the rights of families ahead of the rights of predators. It ensures that the advocacy and legacy of the Morcombe family continue to protect generations of Queensland children. For more than two decades, Bruce and Denise Morcombe have turned unimaginable loss into a movement that has educated millions of children about personal safety and empowered families to speak up. Daniel's Law is the next step in that mission, turning awareness into action and advocacy into law.

This bill delivers on our government's commitment to strengthen Queensland's sex offender laws. It creates Queensland's first public child sex offender register, a three-tier system that gives families the right to know and the tools to protect their children. Under the current system, offenders must report their details to police but the public has no access to that information. Parents cannot know if someone around their child poses a risk. This bill changes that. Tier 1 will publish the photos and details of offenders who have breached their reporting obligations and whose whereabouts are unknown. Tier 2 allows residents to request, in a secure and controlled way, to see the photos of reportable offenders living in their local area. Tier 3 gives parents, guardians and those with parental responsibility the right to ask police whether a particular person—someone who has or will have unsupervised contact with their child—is a registered offender.

I want to take a moment to acknowledge and thank the Attorney-General, the Minister for Police and the Minister for Child Safety for the work they have done to bring this important bill before the House. Their collaboration and commitment have ensured this legislation is practical, effective and firmly focused on keeping children safe. This is about restoring confidence, strengthening awareness and giving parents the information they deserve to protect their children. Importantly, this law is built on balance. It safeguards against misuse with strict penalties of up to 10 years imprisonment for anyone who intimidates, harasses or unlawfully shares information about offenders. Daniel's Law is not about revenge; it is about protection. It empowers families while maintaining fairness, privacy and public safety.

I want to share a story from my own community that shows why this legislation matters. After this bill was introduced, a Redlands mum came to see me. Her story will stay with me forever. Her daughter, then in year 6, had participated in a Daniel Morcombe Foundation child safety program at school. That afternoon she got into the car and quietly told her mum that an uncle had made her feel uncomfortable.

That brave conversation led to a heartbreaking truth: both of her daughters had been victims of abuse for a very long time. Without that school visit, without the Morcombe family's advocacy, that mother may have never known what her children were going through. Because of that education, those girls found their voice and their mother found the truth. That Redlands family wanted me to use this speech to thank Bruce and Denise Morcombe: through your determination to turn pain into purpose you have changed their lives. This is the real-world impact of awareness, education and empowerment, and it is exactly why Daniel's Law is so important.

Daniel's Law is the first of its kind in Queensland. It draws on lessons from other jurisdictions such as Western Australia and South Australia, but it goes further and is designed specifically for Queensland's needs. Here the process is clearer, access is broader and oversight is stronger. Queensland's register will capture a wider range of serious offenders including those convicted of possessing child exploitation material. It will allow any person with ongoing parental responsibility, including grandparents, foster carers and guardians, to apply for information, and it will exclude juvenile offenders and those under court ordered non-disclosure. The Police Commissioner retains discretion over what is published or removed, ensuring sensitive cases are handled responsibly. After five years an independent review will ensure the system remains effective, balanced and fair.

Community safety is a shared responsibility. It takes a village to raise a child, but that village must first be safe. As a mother, I know there is no greater fear than the thought of your child being harmed by someone you trust. That fear is what drives this government's commitment to put the safety of Queenslanders first—not politics, not excuses, but protection. In the Redlands I see every day how seriously our community takes this responsibility. Schools, police and community groups work hand in hand to promote the Recognise React Report message. Volunteers, teachers and parents all play their part. This Friday I will join students and families from Victoria Point State School for their annual walk for Daniel—a walk that unites our community in bright red to say, 'We will protect our children, we will stay aware and we will never forget.' Each year that walk reminds us that education saves lives and that the Morcombe family's message continues to reach every corner of Queensland, including ours.

The Crisafulli government has made community safety a top priority. We made Jack's Law permanent to keep knives off our streets. We delivered Adult Crime, Adult Time laws to ensure serious repeat offenders face real consequences. Now through Daniel's Law we are empowering parents with the truth and restoring trust in the communities where our children grow up. This bill honours Daniel Morcombe's life and his family's extraordinary advocacy. Bruce and Denise have taken the darkest of tragedies and turned it into a legacy of life, one that will now be enshrined in Queensland law. Their strength has changed lives and now their legacy will change law.

Daniel's Law is a promise to every parent, every teacher and every child across Queensland that their safety matters. If even one child is protected, if even one parent is empowered, if even one predator is stopped before causing harm, then this law will have done what it set out to do. That is how we honour Daniel Morcombe—not just with words but with action that will save lives.