




Speech By
Hon. Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

Record of Proceedings, 28 August 2025

**DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE PROTECTION AND OTHER LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Hon. RM BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training) (12.19 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025. As a survivor of domestic violence, this bill is reflective of our government's commitment to put victims before perpetrators and restore safety for all Queenslanders wherever they may live.

It is most concerning to note that within the last decade calls for service to domestic and family violence incidents have increased approximately 218 per cent. More victims are waiting for help and police are unable to keep pace with an ever-growing number of calls for help. It is simply unacceptable to think that any victim of domestic and family violence was left waiting, yet that is precisely what occurred under the former Labor government.

Since forming government the Crisafulli LNP government has gone straight to work addressing the scourge of domestic violence. This bill reflects our ongoing commitment to support victim-survivors of domestic and family violence. It will not surprise anyone in this place to know that I wholeheartedly support this bill. I remember speaking about many of these initiatives, including GPS trackers for offenders, as far back as 2017. It is disappointing that it took a change of government to see such initiatives become reality in this state; nevertheless, it is encouraging to see such practical and decisive action being taken by the Crisafulli LNP government to support victims and tackle domestic and family violence in our communities.

This legislation is just one way the Crisafulli LNP government is giving our frontline police the tools they need to protect vulnerable members of our community. This bill sees the introduction of police protection directions, or PPDs, which will provide a victim-survivor of domestic and family violence with immediate 12-month protection in addition to the standard conditions currently available under a police protection notice. It is important to note that the way police investigate allegations of domestic and family violence will not change under these reforms. This is simply another tool for police to use in the appropriate circumstances following their investigations.

This legislation is another example of the Crisafulli LNP government doing what we said we would do: delivering on our election commitment to pilot the use of GPS electronic monitors on high-risk domestic and family violence perpetrators. I note that this pilot program will be available where the court is satisfied that the respondent has either been convicted of, or is charged with, a domestic violence offence or an indictable offence involving violence against another person or where there is a history of charges for domestic violence offences made against the respondent.

I further note that the court must also be satisfied that the respondent is not already subject to a monitoring device condition for another purpose such as bail or parole. One hundred and fifty devices will be available as part of the initial stage of this pilot, with victim-survivors able to elect to carry their own GPS-enabled safety device. This initiative does not stand alone, with the GPS technology intended to complement existing safety measures already available in cases of domestic and family violence.

Further, noting the impacts of having to give evidence in court, this bill expands the ability for videorecorded evidence-in-chief, supporting victim-survivors as they engage in the court process.

This bill also strengthens processes surrounding the approved provider list of service providers authorised to provide court ordered intervention and counselling services in relation to domestic and family violence matters.

In what should have been a completely bipartisan process, several members opposite, including the member for Waterford, have now criticised our government's consideration of stakeholder feedback in the drafting of this legislation. Those opposite are clutching at straws. Stakeholders in this space have been consulted. Victims have been consulted. Unlike those opposite, this government listens to victims in this state. The most vulnerable in our society, children, were also failed by the member for Waterford. We know that she was the worst child safety minister, the worst minister for health, the worst minister for women and the worst minister for the prevention of domestic and family violence in this parliament.

In closing, I wish to conclude my contribution by reflecting on the remarks of Ms Carolyn Robinson from BeyondDV this morning when she said—

I work with victim survivors every single day, hundreds of them, and I think that these moves, will be very welcome by our victim survivors. So to know now, with the orders being able to be put in place immediately, it means we will be freeing up police so that they can come and support victims as soon as possible. It will make a difference.

We are not done. The Crisafulli LNP government will continue to listen to advocates, to police and to all Queenslanders impacted by the scourge of domestic and family violence, and we will work to unravel a decade of decline under the former Labor government. I commend this bill to the House.