



Speech By
Sean Dillon

MEMBER FOR GREGORY

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

 **Mr DILLON** (Gregory—LNP) (4.44 pm): No-one wishes that they had to rise to either contribute to or develop legislation around domestic and family violence, not because we do not believe there is a need—that much is obvious. In a perfect world, this legislation is not required. However, in a world where a Labor government has declined for the last 10 years to step up and protect victims and their families, it has fallen to a responsible government to swiftly—within 10 months—consult, write, introduce, consult again and now finalise critical personal and safety focused legislation.

Let me be very clear: this legislation is required to not only begin to seriously address the scourge of domestic and family violence; it also forms part of a suite of reforms the Crisafulli government has been asked by victims and the people of Queensland to implement to arrest the vicious, downward crime spiral we are collectively experiencing. Dedicated ministers such as the Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence are taking incredibly seriously their commitment to the people of Queensland with respect to protecting them.

This is something that Labor governments over the last 10 years have clearly neglected. Despite pretending to be the friend of victims, they are actually beholden to the radical left—the bleeding heart brigade that sympathises more with perpetrators than criminals. This led to hand-holding at rallies and hand-wringing in this place, at their refusal to truly listen to the desperate cries of victims across the board or the expert advice from all manner of official agencies. The rank hypocrisy of members opposite who have used public appearances to curry favour and present a false appearance of sympathy yet refuse to come into this place or any other to enact real and meaningful reform to protect those whom they pretend to comfort or future victims. It is both breathtaking and shocking.

The Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister Camm, has boldly led this legislature into a place where no previous minister has. The minister has listened to stakeholders, victims and investigative agencies. Her professional and measured approach has resulted in legislation that carefully ensures protection for individuals exposed to this disgusting thuggery, whilst maintaining both transparency and accountability for investigating officers and existing legal processes.

This legislation has been developed by the minister to ensure protection for victims can be enacted quicker. Its primary purpose is to ensure that victims can be reached faster, reassured and protected. It is that simple. All the hocus-pocus that those opposite and civil libertarians are concocting is utter rubbish. Be under no illusion, this has been forced on government by two main forces—disgusting, disrespectful perpetrators and the Queensland Labor Party. Consistent with Labor's watering down of youth laws has been their refusal to address the matter of domestic and family violence in any meaningful manner and in a way that improves outcomes.

In a vast electorate like Gregory, victims are faced with several issues outside of the direct thuggery of the DFV perpetration. The time required for investigative officers to travel to remote cattle stations or mining claims as well as for victims to subsequently attend support mechanisms is huge. This provides a massive hurdle and is often insurmountable for victims. Vulnerable people in these remote settings will now have the added protection of police protection directions to ensure timely intervention, without the need for personally time-consuming and expensive alternatives, as is the case under Labor's current weak provisions. There are safeguards carefully developed and included in this legislation, but the Crisafulli government's message to perpetrators of domestic and family violence is simple and pointed—don't.

The community at large has spoken clearly through victims and survivors of domestic and family violence but also through the broader community sentiment of disgust, outrage and insistence that the status quo change. We, the Crisafulli government, have considered the most appropriate legislative outcomes and here they are, but this is much more than words and much more than new options. This is about a government that listens and it is about the people speaking. It is about a government that cares, that truly wants not only to protect victims but also to provide a framework and deterrents that challenge current and potential perpetrators to mend their ways.

Irrespective of the behaviour of perpetrators, especially those who falsely seek to amend their actions, we are unashamedly focused on providing the protection that victims need as fast as we can. I believe that that fundamentally underscores this entire legislative approach. I commend Minister Camm, the government members of the committee—the members for Keppel, Pumicestone and Scenic Rim—the cabinet and the Premier for ensuring this legislation has been prioritised. In the interests of vulnerable people right throughout our beautiful state, I strongly urge this chamber to fully and without reservation support this life-changing and protecting legislation.