



Speech By
Hon. Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

Record of Proceedings, 23 April 2026

**EXPANDING ADULT CRIME, ADULT TIME AND TAKING A STRONG STANCE
ON DRUGS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Hon. AC POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation) (12.21 pm): I want to make a very short contribution to the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026. I acknowledge the fine contributions of all of the members on this side of the chamber to this bill. It is very clear: we went to the election with a commitment to drive down the number of victims in this state, particularly those who are victims of youth crime. We put forward Adult Crime, Adult Time. We said we would do it in stages. We are continuing that work. We are starting to see improvements, but there is still a long way to go and we will keep making those changes, as necessary.

I also support the elements of the bill that relate to the illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework. I too agree that permitting individuals to avoid criminal prosecution for drug possession on up to three occasions risks conveying the message that illicit drug use is tolerable whilst simultaneously weakening the deterrent effect of these criminal offences.

Finally, I also want to associate myself with the comments made by others, including the member for Nicklin, in terms of addressing problem antisocial behaviour, particularly around our business districts. For him, it is Nambour. For me, it is Beerwah. We need to continue to look at ways that we can—

Mrs Gerber interjected.

Mr POWELL: Exactly. I take the interjection from the minister, the member for Currumbin. This bill gives the police the powers to start taking action in that respect. With that contribution, I commend the bill to the House.