



Speech By
Hon. Laura Gerber

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Record of Proceedings, 4 March 2026

MOTION

Victims of Crime, Data Reporting

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (6.28 pm): The Crisafulli government is doing exactly what we promised Queenslanders. We promised we would restore safety where you live, we promised we would continue to drive down the number of victims of crime in this state, and we promised we would not stop until Queenslanders feel safe again in their homes, in their businesses and in their communities.

Over 10 years the previous Labor government weakened our laws. They made detention a last resort. They created a generation of repeat serious offenders who cycled through the child protection system into youth justice. They removed breach of bail as an offence. The House does not have to take my word for it because it is in *Hansard*. It is in black and white in *Hansard*. The member for Waterford, in a speech on the youth justice and other legislation amendment bill, said—

At my first Queensland Labor conference removing 17-year-olds from adult prisons was the first motion that I spoke on. It was one of the issues that convinced me to join the Labor Party.

Their decision to put 17-year-olds back into the youth justice system created the watch house crisis. It created a youth justice system that saw serious repeat offenders cycle through our system and youths languishing in watch houses for more than three weeks. They loudly and proudly watered down those laws. Car thefts increased 101 per cent. Break-ins increased 44 per cent. Assaults increased 198 per cent. Victim numbers soared under Labor 193 per cent.

Today they have come into this House and moved a motion about victims. They say that all victims deserve to be counted—yes, they do. Their motion claims they are standing up for victims when one of their own this week has mocked victims. One of their own—the member for Cairns—has mocked victims and he is still sitting in this chamber. You do not consider anti-Semitic crime victims, member for Cairns. He has mocked victims and is still sitting in this chamber.

Mr HEALY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take offence and I ask the member to withdraw.

Mrs GERBER: I withdraw. One of their own who has mocked victims is still sitting in this chamber. Or will he be? We found out tonight there was a secret shadow cabinet meeting. All of the shadow cabinet ministers had to get together for a secret meeting to determine the fate of the member for Cairns, a member who has mocked victims of crime and still sits here. Or will he be?

Mr SPEAKER: We are not far from the end. I believe you are straying a little bit from the motion. If you could speak to the amendment that the member for Ninderry moved, that would be helpful.

Mrs GERBER: We are a government that will always support victims of crime. We are investing more than ever before in victims of crime. What we see on that side is a culture that does not support victims of crime, which includes our Jewish community, who are victims of anti-Semitic crimes. What

we have seen from those opposite is a culture that propagates that behaviour. The secret shadow cabinet meeting they had today needed to determine whether the member for Cairns should still be in this chamber. If he is still a shadow minister—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. You have already warned the minister.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Currumbin, come back to the amendment to the motion.

Mrs GERBER: As a government, we are investing more than ever before to support victims of crime—\$560 million, a record investment in early intervention and rehabilitation to prevent further victims of crime. Whilst they have a shadow minister sitting in their shadow cabinet who does not support victims of crime, there will always be a shadow looming over the Leader of the Opposition. There will always be a shadow. It is a leadership test of the Leader of the Opposition to do something about a disgraceful member sitting in his shadow cabinet who does not support victims of crime, who is spewing anti-Semitic hate and who is propagating that conduct. The Crisafulli government is supporting victims of crime not just with our record investment in early intervention and rehabilitation; we are also supporting victims of crime with our Victims Advocate Service.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mrs GERBER: I can hear the chief fudger over there chirping away. She fudged her own Harvard degree. She has no credibility in this space. You cannot fudge a Harvard degree and then try to say you have credibility.

Ms Grace: How many COSs have you been through?

Mr SPEAKER: I did not hear what you said, but you are warned, member for McConnell!

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance.

Mr SPEAKER: You have 18 seconds remaining, member for Currumbin, to finish being relevant.

Mrs GERBER: We are a government that supports victims of crime with strong laws, early intervention, rehabilitation and the Victims Advocate Service. We are developing a professional Victims Advocate Service to support victims of crime. We are a government that will always stand up for victims of crime. We will give them the laws they need, the police they need and the early intervention and rehabilitation programs our community needs. The Labor opposition have zero credibility in this space because they created the youth crime crisis.

(Time expired)