

Speech By

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MEMBER FOR THEODORE

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

Mr BOOTHMAN (Theodore—LNP) (12.23 pm): In the remaining few minutes, I would like to congratulate the minister for the exceptional work that she and her office have done to put forward this bill today and also the committee for their work. This is a tranche of legislation that fulfils a commitment we gave to the people of Queensland at the last state election that enough is enough.

When it comes to this, we are seeing green shoots, which is certainly welcomed by the communities, but obviously there is a long way to go and more legislation will be needed going forward. Having said that, we are giving it a red-hot go, because that is what the people of Queensland asked for. They have demanded that there needs to be change in Queensland. We need to make our business areas safer. We need to ensure drug use is minimised. We need to get tough on these things.

Other places around the world, like San Francisco, which went very liberal on their drug use policies, are now saying that they have gone too far and it has caused major issues there. We also need to take note that these liberalised policies do not work. Drugs are banned for a reason: they are bad for people, they kill people and they create illegal activities through organised crime. That is why it is so important for us to consider this.

I say to the minister: thank you for bringing in these legislative changes because this is what Queenslanders need and want. We want to get tough on crime. We have had enough of crime running our streets and causing issues for our hardworking families. It is critically important that we as a state get tough on crime. Minister, thank you for bringing these legislative changes in. They are critically important.