

Question on Notice

No. 1637

Asked on Thursday, 29 October 2009

Mr SPRINGBORG asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations (Mr C R Dick) -

QUESTION:

How many offenders were charged with a breach of bail in 2007-08 and 2008-09 (reported by year) and how many offenders were sentenced to a term of actual imprisonment for a breach of bail in 2007-08 and 2008-09 (reported by year)?

ANSWER:

A breach of bail is a charge proffered by the Queensland Police Service when it is alleged that a defendant has breached a condition of their bail undertaking imposed upon them by a court, watch-house manager, or an officer-in-charge of a police station.

There are often a wide number of conditions attached to a bail order, and these vary in significance. Therefore, the breach of bail conditions alleged will similarly vary in significance. The penalties imposed for a breach of a bail condition vary in accordance with the significance of the breach.

The numbers of defendants where a charge of breach of bail was laid before the court in 2007-08 and 2008-09 was 11,030 and 11,076 respectively.

The number of defendants sentenced to an actual term of imprisonment for a breach of bail in 2007-08 and 2008-09 was 1391 and 1317 respectively.

I note that the Honourable member and all members of the Liberal-National Party State Opposition voted against the reversal of onus of proof for bail for offences under the Criminal Organisation Bill 2009, very recently passed by state parliament.