

~~**CRIMINAL CODE (FILMING OR POSSESSING IMAGES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN) AMENDMENT BILL**~~

~~**Order Discharged**~~

~~**Dr FLEGG** (Moggill—LNP) (11.37 am), by leave, without notice: I move—~~

~~That general business order of the day No. 1, Criminal Code (Filming or Possessing Images of Violence Against Children) Amendment Bill, be discharged from the Notice Paper.~~

~~Question put—That the motion be agreed to.~~

~~Motion agreed to.~~

~~**Withdrawal**~~

~~**Dr FLEGG** (Moggill—LNP) (11.38 am), by leave, without notice: I move—~~

~~That the bill be withdrawn.~~

~~Question put—That the motion be agreed to.~~

~~Motion agreed to.~~

CRIMINAL CODE (FILMING OR POSSESSING IMAGES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST SCHOOLCHILDREN) AMENDMENT BILL

First Reading

Dr FLEGG (Moggill—LNP) (11.38 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Criminal Code in relation to schoolchild bullying material to provide in particular for immediate confiscation of devices used for filming or possessing images of violence against schoolchildren. I present the explanatory notes, and I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Filming or Possessing Images of Violence Against Schoolchildren) Amendment Bill.

Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Filming or Possessing Images of Violence Against Schoolchildren) Amendment Bill, explanatory notes.

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Second Reading

Dr FLEGG (Moggill—LNP) (11.40 am): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

Members will be aware that the LNP is deeply concerned about the impact of bullying against schoolchildren and the worsening of this and the even more serious and difficult aspect of bullying utilising new technologies. As a community and as a parliament, we have not yet come to grips with the new technologies that are such a big part of the lives of children. In days gone by, as we all know, bullying was taking place but now, with the advent of social networking sites, cameras, mobile phones, MMS, email and the like, images of bullying and violence, particularly assaults against schoolchildren, can be captured, circulated and posted on the internet. There really is no escape for children.

I seek leave to have the remainder of my speech incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

There is really no escape for children even if they were within their home or anywhere else.

There is no doubt that the humiliation and harm caused by this is very significant and has even been implicated in suicides of schoolchildren.

Current measures are really proving inadequate as we see frequently on the television when these images are posted and frequently bullying attacks are conducted for the purpose of filming them.

They have also become relatively common among girls.

As you will be aware, the Scrutiny of Legislation Committee indicated some concerns in relation to the first Bill I introduced in relation to this, however this current bill has been redrafted to address those concerns.

I am particularly keen to see this parliament do something to protect children and that's why I am happy to take on board concerns raised by the Committee.

This Bill makes it an offence to film, to possess or to distribute the images.

The Bill's redraft does not affect other existing laws in relation to child exploitation material.

Penalties are higher for adults than juveniles but in particular the penalty of confiscation of devices is critical to the Bill.

To simply have a legal process that takes months and drags offenders before the court would be ineffective in protecting the community. As with hooning in cars there is a need for some action that can be taken in a timely fashion to stop the distribution of these images—once they have been posted and distributed there really isn't any going back.

So the provision allows a police officer or if within a school ground, a headmaster/teacher or teacher aide to confiscate any devices used to film, store or transmit images.

A receipt for confiscated devices is required.

This measure allows an immediacy of response; an appropriate penalty for behaving this way in relation to the bullying of children and also for the first time gives some prospect of actually stopping this behaviour before it has gone too far and potentially caused serious harm to children.

I know in this place that Bills are frequently looked at along party lines and Opposition Bills rarely, if ever, garner the support of the government.

I think this is an important measure. I think the community is very concerned about it. We have attempted to take on board the concerns that have been addressed by the Scrutiny of Legislation Committee and I do appeal to the government who must, like us, realise there is a serious problem and, like us, should be concerned about that problem, to consider the rare action of allowing this Bill to pass.

Debate, on motion of Mr Dick, adjourned.

~~PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS~~

~~Sport and Recreation Programs~~

~~Mr RYAN (Morayfield ALP) (11.41 am): Along with sporting and recreation groups from throughout the Morayfield electorate, I am very excited about the new package of sport and recreation funding programs. These new funding programs will support sporting and recreation groups whilst also providing jobs, building sport and recreation infrastructure, and promoting a healthier lifestyle for Queenslanders. The new funding program supports the Bligh Labor government's commitment to the Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland's goals of enhancing and increasing volunteerism and making Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people. By supporting local sporting and recreation groups in the Morayfield electorate and more broadly those groups right throughout Queensland, the Bligh Labor government is providing real opportunity for people to participate more fully in their communities.~~

~~The new programs funded over three years include a \$38 million Local Sport and Recreation Jobs plan, which assists with the employment costs of a local sport and recreation coordinator who will help organisations with matters such as fundraising, promotional activities and sponsorships at the grassroots level; a \$51.5 million Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Program; a \$27.6 million State Sport and Recreation Organisation Development Program, which will help encourage participation in sport and recreation across Queensland; and an \$18 million Active Inclusion Program to encourage disadvantaged groups to participate in sport and recreation.~~

~~Along with the member for Pumicestone and the Caboolture Sports Club, I will be hosting a sports forum for local sporting and recreation groups from the Morayfield and Pumicestone electorates on Tuesday, 16 March. I encourage all interested people to attend. I also encourage them to enjoy the member for Pumicestone's pikelets and cakes that she will be providing. Already, I am receiving some exceptionally positive feedback from members of local sporting and recreation groups about these new programs.~~

~~(Time expired)~~

~~SENIORS RECOGNITION (GRANDPARENTS PROVIDING CARE) BILL~~

~~First Reading~~

~~Mrs MENKENS (Burdakin LNP) (11.42 am): I present a bill for an act to provide for the recognition of grandparents providing full time care to their grandchildren and to ensure their interests are considered when making decisions that impact on their ability to care for their grandchildren. I present the explanatory notes, and I move—~~

~~That the bill be now read a first time.~~

~~Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.~~

~~Motion agreed to.~~

~~Bill read a first time.~~

~~Tabled paper: Seniors Recognition (Grandparents Providing Care) Bill.~~

~~Tabled paper: Seniors Recognition (Grandparents Providing Care) Bill, explanatory notes.~~