




Speech By  
**Mark Boothman**

**MEMBER FOR THEODORE**

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**CORRECTIVE SERVICES (EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES AND SECURITY) AND  
OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (3.39 pm): With three minutes left on the clock, I will try to fit in as much as I can with my debate on the bill to do with emerging technologies in the corrective services area. There are a couple of concerns I would like to highlight to do with the drone situation. As an example, the northern boundary of the Stuart prison in Townsville is close to Southwood Road which is right next to the railway line. The legislation talks about being over corrective services land. The issue I have with it is you can fly a drone up from Southwood Road at quite a high altitude over that area and take photographs of the prison itself so that you could do surveillance of the prison. I do not feel that is acceptable. That is something I have expressed to my colleagues previously that this is something that the minister does need to look at. Most drones will have a height limit, but you can easily override that. A person who is conducting criminal activity will override that. They will be able to see in there with telescopic lenses on those drones. A lot of drones have telescopic lenses; therefore you could fly that drone up and look straight into the prison. That is my concern. That is an issue the minister does need to deal with.

Another issue the minister needs to deal with is after adjusting the sentencing penalties when it comes to assaulting corrections officers—and God bless all the corrections officers out there for all the fantastic work they do—since 2020-21 and 2021-22, still 11 serious assaults were perpetrated against correctional service staff. It was not a deterrent. How many of those prisoners received the maximum sentence of 14 years? That is the point we put in the statement of reservation. We need to protect these officers better than we are.