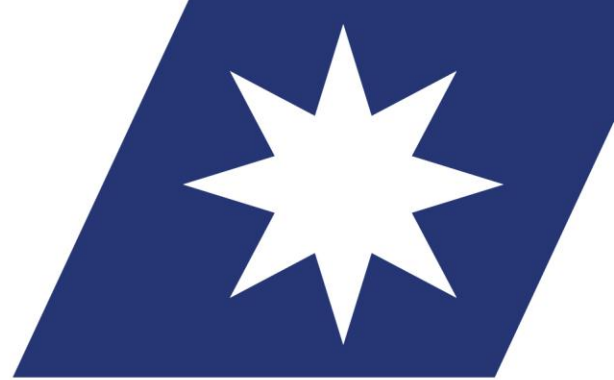


SHANE KNUTH

Member for Hill



MEDIA RELEASE

28/02/2019

Knuth questions Minister over kids stuck in 50 degree heat for hours on school bus due to 'policy'

Member for Hill Shane Knuth MP is concerned children have been stuck on school buses in North Queensland in up to 50 degree heat for nearly one and half hours at a time, twice a day, no air-conditioning and little ventilation - with reports from students in tears and nearly passing out from heat exhaustion.

Mr Knuth has been fighting for mandatory air-conditioning on the school buses since late last year in response to numerous complaints from the students and their parents along the Cassowary Coast. He raised the issue with the Minister in Parliament again today only to be told it is against current policy to have all school buses fitted with air-conditioning.

"I was made aware of this before the location was even in my electorate, it is completely unacceptable that students are sweltering in this heat," Mr Knuth said.

"While we acknowledge the Minister's office is communicating with the bus company and school, the bottom line is the current policy needs to change to include a minimum requirement for air-conditioning - especially in North Queensland conditions.

"Parents have informed me their children are coming off the bus drenched in sweat, thirsty and nearly passing out from heat exhaustion.

"We need this fixed sooner rather than later, we don't want this fobbed off under policy for another year, we are dealing with basic human rights," Mr Knuth said.

—ENDS—

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