




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

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**SUSTAINABLE PLANNING (INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES) AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (5.53 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Sustainable Planning (Infrastructure Charges) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014. As part of the property and construction strategy, the government committed to reforming Queensland's local infrastructure planning and charging framework. The bill addresses the challenging issue of infrastructure charges and provides a way forward that will encourage development and also ensure local authorities have the funds necessary to build local infrastructure such as roads and water and sewage treatment plants. The reforms will deliver an infrastructure charges framework that is fair and supports the long-term sustainability of local governments and water distributor-retailers and provides assurance to the development industry when planning and delivering projects.

The bill will simplify, streamline and clarify the operation of planning legislation and the supporting appeal and dispute resolution processes for infrastructure charges matters within the SPA whilst also removing superseded and redundant provisions. In this way, the bill further supports this government's objective to reduce regulatory red tape. The bill will also align the distributor-retailer infrastructure charging and planning arrangements under the South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009 with the local government framework under the Sustainable Planning Act 2009.

The package of reforms presented in this bill will deliver certainty, transparency and consistency to Queensland's local infrastructure planning and charging framework and empower local governments and the development industry to get on with the business of delivering infrastructure, growth and employment opportunities in our local communities. In particular, if I might say, the building and construction industry on the northern Gold Coast is experiencing massive growth as is the whole of the northern Gold Coast but in particular the Coomera electorate. Over the last five years the Coomera electorate has seen growth in the number of constituents of in excess of 28 per cent. That 28 per cent growth has a demand attached to it for further housing, construction and infrastructure. This bill is going to simplify and certainly give the construction industry an opportunity to reduce their costs for those people moving into the northern Gold Coast and, in particular, the Coomera electorate. I commend the bill to the House.