



Speech By  
**Stirling Hinchliffe**


**MEMBER FOR SANDGATE**

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Record of Proceedings, 7 May 2015

**INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (RESTORING FAIRNESS) AND OTHER LEGISLATION  
AMENDMENT BILL**

**Motion: Portfolio Committee Reporting Date**

 **Mr HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (11.50 am): I rise to support the motion moved by the Treasurer. I am not surprised that we hear members opposite suggesting that they are going to be voting against it, because they will do anything to delay fairness. They will do anything to delay the opportunity for Queenslanders to have a fair industrial environment. But most particularly the reason why this government understands that it is important to get this legislation in place in a timely manner, once it has been duly considered by the committee process over the coming weeks, is that we know how important it is for those bodies that are going to be planning and budgeting for their communities, particularly local governments right across the length and breadth of Queensland, up and down the coast and out to the western borders, to have certainty. They all need to have certainty. They all need to have surety about how they are going to plan for their budgets for the years ahead.

This reform, this reinstatement of the rights and fairness for many workers throughout Queensland and most particularly for local government workers right throughout Queensland—and I acknowledge the contribution in this debate by the member for Dalrymple, acknowledging how hardworking local government workers are and how difficult their circumstances can be—is yet another opportunity to ensure that in a timely way local governments are able to manage and budget for how their hard-won and hard-fought-for conditions can be observed and provision provided for improvement of those conditions over time.

I commend the Treasurer's motion to the House to allow this bill to be considered in a timely way in order that we deliver not only certainty for local governments throughout the length and breadth of Queensland—something that I think they would cherish and appreciate—but also certainty and opportunity for fairness for so many hardworking Queenslanders.