



Speech By  
**Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe**


**MEMBER FOR SANDGATE**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 July 2015

**MOTION**

**Referral to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee**

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Leader of the House) (2.45 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

That the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee inquire into and report on whether there is a need to improve the consumer protections and remedies for buyers of new motor vehicles with numerous, severe defects that reoccur despite multiple repair attempts or where defects have caused a new motor vehicle to be out of service for a prolonged period of time—otherwise known as lemons.

That, in undertaking the inquiry, the committee should consider, but not be limited to—

1. The experiences of consumers in Queensland who have purchased lemons, including community expectations of what constitutes a lemon motor vehicle and the impacts, financial and otherwise, on consumers who have purchased lemons;
2. The consumer protections and remedies available under existing legislation, such as those contained in the Australian Consumer Law and state based legislation, including remedies available through Queensland courts and the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal, and their adequacy in assisting consumers who have purchased lemons;
3. How legislative protections and remedies might be improved to better protect Queensland consumers who have purchased lemons, including improving the ability of a consumer to enforce their rights without recourse to courts or tribunals; and
4. Any legislative and other protections in other jurisdictions assisting consumers who have purchased lemons, including the costs and benefits of existing and proposed protections.

That the committee seek public submissions and consult with key stakeholders, including motor vehicle manufacturers and dealers, as well as consumer protection representatives and report to the Legislative Assembly by 30 November 2015.