




Speech By
Shane Knuth

MEMBER FOR DALRYMPLE

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**NORTH STRADBROKE ISLAND PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY AND
OTHER ACTS AMENDMENT BILL; NORTH STRADBROKE ISLAND
PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY (RENEWAL OF MINING LEASES)
AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (12.07 am), in reply: Tonight we have heard different arguments from both sides of the House and different points of view. There is no doubt that we support robust debate in this House. There have been many arguments. The Deputy Premier was right about the relationship between the Newman government and Sibelco being very shaky. I was on the committee when the legislation to extend sandmining to 2035 was smashed through with disrespect towards the Quandamooka people. The way that the legislation was smashed through was probably one of the lowest acts that I have ever seen in this parliament.

At the same time I believe that we are going a bit too far in legislating to cease sandmining on North Stradbroke Island in 2019. That is why I introduced our bill. We have many reasons for that, in particular, jobs for the community on North Stradbroke Island. Using the government's own best case figures, the loss of mining will result in the loss of 144 jobs, 95 of those being residents of Stradbroke Island, and the loss of between \$55 to \$86 million annually to the Stradbroke Island economy and a loss of over \$1.52 billion over the next 10 years.

The bill that I have introduced states that the mining lease will end in December 2024. It also allows for rehabilitation until 30 December 2029. Representatives from the chamber of commerce, the AWU and mining workers were much more content with 2024 than they were with 2019, which is why I have put this bill before the House. It is a compromise. It is a fact that none of us will get it all our own way. However, I believe that this is in the best interests of North Stradbroke Island, particularly in terms of jobs. If my bill is passed tonight, everyone gets an outcome and no-one has it completely their own way. Tonight, there will be big winners and there will be massive big losers, which is why we have made this suggestion. This it is not radical. It is a balanced compromise.

I believe that the North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability (Renewal of Mining Leases) Amendment Bill 2015 is sensible. It is sound. It is good policy and it gives an outcome for everyone. I ask members to support this bill.