



Speech By  
**Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe**


**MEMBER FOR SANDGATE**

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Record of Proceedings, 19 April 2016

**ELECTORAL (IMPROVING REPRESENTATION) AND OTHER LEGISLATION  
AMENDMENT BILL**

**Declared Urgent: Allocation of Time Limit Order**

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.50 am): What we have seen here this morning is an extraordinary overturning of the rules and standing orders of this House. What we have enshrined in the standing orders of this House is a commitment to ensuring—

**Ms Simpson** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Thank you, member for Maroochydore. I do not need your assistance. You will have an opportunity to speak, if you choose, later on. I am listening to the Leader of the House.

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** What we have here is a situation where the practices and understandings and, indeed, the standing orders that specifically prohibit the reconsideration of a matter that has been considered by the parliament, by this the 55th Parliament, have been overturned, taking advantage of a shift in numbers. This is simple politics, which ignores the reasons that we have the rules. I am not surprised. We saw on so many occasions in the 54th Parliament those opposite, having a dominance of numbers, ignore the rules and throw them asunder. We have seen that.

**Mr Cripps** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Hinchinbrook, those interjections are not appropriate. You are warned under standing order 253A.

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** Here we are at the beginning of a parliamentary sitting week and we have a range of very important matters before the House that need to be dealt with in a timely way. We have matters that relate to domestic and family violence. We have matters that relate to the delivery of certainty around significant major investments in our state. We have matters that relate to the operation of the Crime and Corruption Commission. We have matters before the House that relate to our very important—and I hear so many opposite saying how important it is—racing industry and how we can ensure that integrity is established and delivered in relation to that industry.

We also have matters in relation to the environmental management of our state and the environmental management of resource projects, ensuring that those people who are responsible for those sorts of projects are held responsible for the damage that they may have potentially done. We also have private members' business that is before the House and that this House has agreed quite broadly to see debated this week in relation to the taxi industry. What we see here today is an attempt to throw that all of that into a spin, to throw that to one side, and make this parliament debate again something that has been debated and very clearly determined by this House. This House has made a decision in relation to the reintroduction effectively of some form of gerrymander.

**Mr WALKER:** Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I find the comments of the Leader of the House in respect of gerrymander offensive and I ask that he withdraw.

**Mr SPEAKER:** There is no point of order. It was not reflecting directly on you, as I understand it. I did not hear the comment, but did it reflect on you specifically, member for Mansfield?

**Mr WALKER:** I accept your ruling, Mr Speaker.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Thank you. There is no point of order. Before I invite the Leader of the House to continue, the member for Maroochydore commented earlier. If members want to speak to this matter, I urge them to put a list together and present them to me so I can make sure that everyone has a chance to speak before debate is closed down.

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** What we see here is those opposite yet again trying on a stunt that distracts from the true business of this House, trying on a stunt that will see this House debate yet again a matter that has been very significantly canvassed in this parliament. I call upon those members who are interested in making sure that this House is focused on the matters that we have had full preparation of to ensure that this House is given the opportunity to debate the matters that it has expected to debate this coming week and not be pulled sideways and pulled asunder on this crazy re prosecution of something that has been dealt with by this House. If we see this sort of standard, we will see the re prosecution of all sorts of things. We do not want to have this House wasting its time doing those sorts of things.

There are plenty of members in this chamber who make representations to me all the time about how they want to get out of this place in a timely way towards the end of the week. This sort of behaviour is the absolute guarantee that we will not be seeing that. I urge all members to vote against this motion because, while clearly we will see this matter being debated in this parliament again, there is no need to distract the parliament from the business that has been on the *Notice Paper* for this week. I urge members to oppose the member for Mansfield's motion.