




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 21 April 2016

TRANSPORT LEGISLATION (TAXI SERVICES) AMENDMENT BILL

Reconsideration

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Leader of the House) (12.21 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That, notwithstanding anything contained in standing and sessional orders:

1. the third reading of the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015 be rescinded and the bill be reconsidered by the House in consideration in detail for the particular purposes of reconsidering the clauses inserted by amendments 1 and 2 moved by the member for Mount Isa; and
2. reconsideration of the clauses may include:
 - (a) omitting the clauses; or
 - (b) amendment of the clauses by omitting, adding or inserting words; and
3. following the reconsideration of the clauses inserted by amendments 1 and 2 moved by the member for Mount Isa in consideration in detail, the questions for the third reading and long title shall be reput.

I note the interjections during the moving of that motion. While I might have been the fixer for an error that happened on this side tonight, right now I am being the fixer for the blue that those opposite made.

The reconsideration of the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015 is necessary this evening because of the absurdity and economic vandalism of the Liberal National Party on full display last night. As a consequence of the Liberal National Party's backed amendments, the definition of a taxi has been fundamentally altered for the purposes of both insurance and enforcement.

The amendments backed by the LNP last night mean, in short, that any motor vehicle used for a booked service that does not have a taxi licence is deemed to be operating illegally. This means that charter buses, tourist bus services, chartered school bus services, community transport services, limousine services, shuttle services and hotel accommodation transfer services are all deemed illegal if they are not operated as a licensed taxi. It must also be of concern for our federal colleagues that Comcars would be deemed illegal in Queensland because of the LNP. I am sure that Prime Minister Turnbull would not appreciate being booked while on the hustings over the next few weeks!

I will say in relation to the member for Mount Isa that I appreciate his intent in bringing forward this bill this year. It is clear that the government supports the intent, and we passed a series of important amendments last night to strengthen the powers of transport inspectors and better define a taxi service.

Mr SPEAKER: One moment, Leader of the House. Members for Indooroopilly, Caloundra and Clayfield. Member for Indooroopilly! Will you please leave the chamber with your private conversation. Otherwise you will be warned.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Unfortunately, we could not support all of the Katter's Australian Party amendments, including the ones I am moving to rescind tonight. While the motivation behind them was pure, the unintended consequences of the amendments made them unworkable and the government cannot accept them.

I have seen the public comments of the shadow minister, who has indicated support for tidying up these amendments. I acknowledge that and thank him for that. I trust that he and the LNP will support the government in ensuring that our community services and schools are not infringed by these amendments.