




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 2 March 2017

**SUGAR INDUSTRY (APPLICATION OF TRANSITIONAL PROVISION)
AMENDMENT BILL: PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE, REPORTING DATE**

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Leader of the House) (11.50 am): The government will be opposing the urgency motion moved by the member for Buderim for similar reasons to those proposed by the Leader of Opposition Business. We in the government also clearly understand and appreciate the great challenges and difficulties that are associated with these issues in the important and historical sugar industry, which is so important to our future. The sugar industry is fundamental to the history of the state and it is fundamental to its future. That is why we want to make sure that within the industry we have legislative arrangements that support further investment and development for a highly functioning industry that is fair to all. It is why we opposed the bill that was brought to this parliament, I note, via an urgency motion.

I welcome the commitment from the leader of opposition business to debating an urgency motion, rather than guillotining it. I appreciate that we should all come together to ensure that these issues are properly understood and properly ventilated. The committee process, which I know many members of this House value, would add to the consideration of this private member's bill without any truncation or declaration of its urgency without an appropriate explanation, and I agree with the leader of opposition business that we have not heard such an explanation today. Therefore, the House should oppose this proposal for urgency on a bill that deserves appropriate extensive and detailed consideration and reflection from all the stakeholders who will have a great interest in it and not just all of the members in this House, who I know share a commitment to, and a passionate support for, the important role that the sugar industry plays in this state.

That is why the government will be opposing this motion. We look forward to examining the content of the private member's motion and allowing the whole of the committee process to proceed, enabling all of the stakeholders who have a great interest in it, from across Queensland and, indeed, across the world, to have an opportunity to make their submissions.