




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 24 August 2017

SAFER WATERWAYS BILL

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (11.40 am): I oppose the motion moved by the member for Dalrymple. This is a matter that has been sought to be debated in this House previously. It was rejected at that time. We have allowed the opportunity to have the debate today to allow the member for Dalrymple to give good reasons why this needs to be brought on earlier than the timetable provided for by the standing and sessional orders. Frankly, I do not believe he has given those reasons.

The reality is that croc catchers in our system already have the authority to choose how to remove problem crocs including by lethal force where that is deemed necessary. This is not an urgent matter in the face of some imminent danger; there is a set of arrangements in place that are managing these situations now. No government has ever done more on croc management than the Palaszczuk government. Targeted croc operations have more than doubled under this government, and that demonstrates that this is an area that is being managed prudently in the face of concerns that are being raised.

I want to note that that management needs to occur. We need to ensure that the understanding of how that management is occurring and the concerns in the community are considered properly by a proper, extensive committee process. That is why I oppose the declaration of this bill as urgent and I oppose the motion that the member for Dalrymple has put before the House.