



Speech By Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 15 June 2018

REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; BETTING TAX BILL

Allocation of Time Limit Order

Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (9.53 pm): I speak in support of the motion moved by the Leader of the House, and I do so because I am committed to good management of the business of the House, as is required in Westminster parliaments worldwide. The need to make sure that we manage the business of the House is very important; otherwise we are failing the people of Queensland. I have heard from members some suggestion of having some sort of logjam. We know where the jam is coming from. There is plenty of jam being laid on thick when we have seen filibuster after filibuster in debates in the House over the last couple of weeks.

It is absolutely important that this House use the capability that it has to manage its own business. That is one of the requirements, one of the duties, that we all have as members of the parliament—to manage the business of the House. If there are some people who cannot help themselves but who like the sound of their own voice, if there are some people who have that problem, then perhaps the House, on behalf of the people of Queensland, have to manage it for them.

There are some members who like to think that they are some sort of expert in Westminster traditions in this place. I suspect that some of them focus on other palaces in Britain. They are a bit too focused on other palaces, rather than the Palace of Westminster. The reality is that business management happens each and every day in a sitting week in the Palace of Westminster. It is part of the fundamental practices of that House from which we draw some traditions. Indeed, it is part of the practice of just about every other Westminster parliament in the world. We need to learn from those experiences to make sure we deliver a business-like, sensible, understandable parliament to the people of Queensland. That is what this motion recognises in relation to delivery of the appropriation bills before the House tonight. The same principles stand for how we should manage the business of the parliament going forward.

The Leader of the House has articulated very well that there is well and truly sufficient time to deal with consideration in detail of the bills before the House in the time that has been made available in the motion she moved. There is no question she has outlined and described on the record that there is plenty of time to address the issues and concerns that members from across the House may have about elements of those bills before the House and the clauses thereof. There is plenty of time. What we are experiencing now is more filibustering. That is why I urge the House to support the motion moved by the Leader of the House so that we can properly manage this House.