



Speech By  
**Barry O'Rourke**


**MEMBER FOR ROCKHAMPTON**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Dobinsons Springs & Suspension

 **Mr O'ROURKE** (Rockhampton—ALP) (6.12 pm): Last month I had the pleasure of meeting Glen Dobinson, the director of Dobinsons Springs & Suspension, with Glenn Butcher, our new Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing. Dobinsons Springs & Suspension was successful in their application for round 2 of Made in Queensland funding and received \$581,000 towards their \$1.265 million project to install and commission a cold-coiling machine and stress-relieving load temperature furnace. This leading-edge technology has allowed the company to increase its daily coil spring output by 400 per cent, employ three new full-time workers and set them on a path to create more new jobs over the next five years. The first small run, completed late last year, demonstrated a reduced processing time of up to 83 per cent and a gain of 10 per cent reduction in cut-offs, resulting in cost savings per unit. This is a fantastic result that could mean big things for this company globally.

Glen Dobinson said that his dad started the business in the backyard in 1953, and they have grown and are now delivering and manufacturing and repairing a large range of springs. They also sell a comprehensive range of suspension components and export to more than 50 countries. His two sons are now looking after the business as he moves to a more relaxed lifestyle.

During COVID-19 their export trade ceased for four weeks and, as a result, six casuals have not had shifts. In the last few weeks orders have started to drip-feed in, and once they are back up at capacity the casual staff will be back in the stores as they require a niche skill set. During our inspection of the site Glen said that they generally have at least one semitrailer of goods being sent around the world each week. It was also great to hear how proud Glen is that the head office and manufacturing plant are based in Rocky. He has smaller offices around Australia and across the world. They employ about 55 local staff and are a great local employer for Rockhampton. Some of the staff have been there for many, many years. It is a really great local business that is going ahead.