




Speech By  
**Shane Knuth**

**MEMBER FOR HILL**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2022

**BUILDING AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr KNUTH** (Hill—KAP) (6.58 pm): I rise to speak in the debate on the Building and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. The Queensland building industry is one of the largest employers in the state. Around 230,000 people are directly employed in the industry and it contributes up to \$50 billion a year to the state's economy. The explanatory notes state that the purpose of the bill is to: firstly, support contemporary consumer expectations about efficiency of buildings through amendments to legislative provisions regarding the 'ban the banners', solar hot-water systems and solar panels, the expanded use of greywater and holding tanks for sewage and greywater; and, secondly, enhance the efficacy and transparency of the regulatory framework through amendments to legislative provisions.

The bill is also about protecting home owners who want to install solar panels on their properties. This will ensure that the property owners are not ordered in the future to remove solar panels simply because developers do not consider them attractive to the housing development. Home owners must be encouraged to install solar panels to their homes to reduce power costs and generational usage.

I want to talk about the focus on combustible cladding used in the building and construction industry. This has been highlighted ever since the tragic 2017 Grenfell Tower fire in the UK which took over 24 hours to contain mainly because of the use of combustible cladding. When it comes to the building industry, we always support good changes to legislation.

I believe it is important that we look after the solar industry. Many people in the grazing industry have benefited so much from solar power. They have been able to get rid of their generators and petrol pumps. It has been of great benefit to that industry. I commend the bill to the House.