

4. LEAVE TO INTRODUCE

**Private Member's Bill to prohibit the sale, supply and release of sky lanterns –
Leave to introduce granted**

The Hon. Member for Garff (Mr Perkins) to move:

That leave be given to introduce a Private Member's Bill to prohibit the sale, supply and release into the atmosphere of sky lanterns, to prohibit the release into the atmosphere of helium balloons, to provide for exemptions from such prohibitions; and for connected purposes.

The Speaker: Item 4, Leave to Introduce, and I the call on the Hon. Member for Garff, Mr Perkins.

Mr Perkins: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The Sky Lanterns and Balloons Prohibition Bill 2020, I ask leave to introduce. My proposed Bill would ban the sale and outdoor release of sky lanterns and the outdoor release of helium balloons. I do not propose to go out to consultation as I have had resounding support from Isle of Man Fire Service, Manx National Heritage, Manx National Farmers' Union, Beach Buddies, Manx Wildlife Trust, Manx Whale and Dolphin Watch ... Hon. Members, I could go on and on but I will not.

Sky lanterns and helium balloons give humans a thrill for a few minutes but they are an absolute disaster for animals and wildlife. (**A Member:** Hear, hear.) Bearing in mind our Biosphere Status, I beg leave to introduce the Bill standing in my name.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The Speaker: Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Hooper.

Mr Hooper: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

Not content with one Private Member's Bill, Mr Perkins wants a second. I am more than happy to second his attempt to bring this one forward.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Mr Thomas.

Mr Thomas: Just a clarification. Over the last seven or eight years I believe the Office of Fair Trading and the Fire Service have used secondary legislation to deal with this. I think it would be quite interesting to find out what the flaws were in the use of secondary legislation in respect of this. If the Member has that now, or to circulate it afterwards.

The Speaker: I call on the mover to reply. If he does not know the answer, I do! (*Laughter*)

Mr Perkins: As a brief summary, the actual sale is banned but we know that people are buying from the internet. This will actually cover that. The original 1995 Bill, or whatever it was, would be repealed. I think it is that.

So I hope that answers the Hon. Member's question.

Thank you, Mr Speaker. I beg to move now.

The Speaker: I put the question that leave be given to introduce a Bill along the lines stated at Item 4 on the Order Paper. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.