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Press release - Industrial Development Advisory Council

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PRESS RELEASE BY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, THE HON.  
DON DUNSTAN Q.C., M.P., 17.5.68

The Leader of the State Opposition, Mr. Dunstan, said today there were some disquieting features about the announcements which have just been made by the Premier, concerning the Industrial Development Advisory Council.

"However I am naturally pleased that Mr. Hall is seeking to build on to the work which was done by the Labor Government in establishing effective staff and arrangements, and the co-operation of the academic, business and industrial community for industrial development", he said.

"Making the Industrial Development Advisory Council a body with a separate administration from the Industrial Development Department seems to me a means of lessening rather than making more effective, the industrial development organisation as it existed," he said.

"The industrial development policies followed out by the Housing Trust and its officers now promoted to influence an executive control in the Industrial Advisory Council, was one which had created a number of problems at Elizabeth and had been advised against by the consultants, Scott and Little."

Mr. Dunstan said: "The State has engaged these consultants who have very wide experience, to advise us on the best methods of staffing and developing our Industrial Development branch and its work."

"The moves Mr. Hall has now made are against the early advice given to me by the consultants."

Mr. Dunstan said: "I do not think it is a good step to have a chairman of the Industrial Development Council who is not Director of Industrial Development."

Inevitably, differences of view may now occur between the Industrial Development Advisory Council, and the Director of Industrial Development and his staff," he said.

"It seems to me," Mr. Dunstan said, "that these moves have been ill-considered and that Mr. Hall would have been wiser to wait and to digest the information given him by the Industrial Development branch and its consultants before making further moves."