

Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Bill 2024

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30 April 2024

Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

To whom it may concern,

Re: Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Bill 2024

The Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee regarding consultation on the *Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Bill 2024* (the Bill).

QTIC is the peak industry body and leading advocate for the tourism, hospitality, and events sectors in Queensland, committed to the growth and sustainability of the state visitor economy. Our efforts focus on powerful lobbying, policy development, and collaboration with key industry stakeholders to create a favourable business environment for operators. As a not-for-profit, membership-based organisation, we take pride in ensuring that the concerns and needs of our members and the broader tourism industry inform all relevant policy debates and that businesses have strong representation in decision-making processes. By promoting the value and importance of tourism in government forums and to the wider community, we help to create a vibrant, diverse industry that benefits all.

Tourism is a dynamic, multifaceted industry, comprised of passionate people showcasing Queensland’s unique destinations, rich cultural history, and experiences. This industry fosters strong community ties through diverse services and business opportunities, while a dedication to research and innovation continually opens new avenues for growth and development in the state. Tourism stimulates growth in sectors including agriculture, construction, manufacturing, transport, retail, education, and training, circulating an additional 86 cents in the economy for every dollar spent (2022-23).¹ The industry is also relevant to many, if not all, government portfolios and involves all three levels of government, contributing \$1.5 billion in net taxes to federal, state, and local revenue.²

In December 2023, tourism generated \$34 billion in Overnight Visitor Expenditure (OVE)³ and accounted for 6.3% of total state GSP (direct/indirect), ranking as Queensland’s fifth largest export.⁴ The Queensland tourism industry represents 68.4% of total state employment, comprising 260,000 jobs (direct/indirect)⁵, and is projected to have the third fastest employment growth by 2025-26.⁶ However, the industry faces significant ongoing workforce shortages, with 4,147 job vacancies across the state.⁷

¹ Tourism Research Australia 2024, [State tourism satellite account – Queensland summary](#), Australian Trade and Investment Commission, viewed 23 April 2024.

² *Ibid.*

³ Tourism and Events Queensland 2024, [Queensland tourism economic key facts](#), viewed 22 April 2024.

⁴ Tourism Research Australia 2024, [State tourism satellite account – Queensland summary](#), Australian Trade and Investment Commission, viewed 23 April 2024.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Jobs Queensland 2023, [Anticipating Future Skills Series](#), Queensland Government, viewed 24 April 2024.

⁷ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2024, [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - February 2024](#), viewed 15 April 2024.

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Beyond economic impact, tourism serves as a cornerstone of social cohesion, uniting communities and enabling cross-cultural exchange. In addition, tourism is as a catalyst for environmental education, fosters responsible stewardship of our natural resources, and offers a platform for empowering First Nations peoples through sharing of rich cultural stories and traditions.

In eight years, the *Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games* will put Queensland in the global spotlight. A well-supported tourism industry, situated at the intersection of people, place, and economy, is key to leveraging this event for positive change. QTIC is dedicated to building a vibrant and resilient visitor economy, focusing on strategic planning, collaboration, and innovation to ensure a memorable *Brisbane 2032* experience and long-term benefits for all.

QTIC offers the following comments on the Bill:

- We endorse the establishment of the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority and its board.
- QTIC is currently working with the Queensland Government Department of Tourism and Sport to facilitate implementation of the *Towards Tourism 2032: Transforming Queensland's visitor economy* strategy (TT2032). This involves consulting with industry through coordination of various reference groups, comprised of industry sector associations, regional and local destination management organisations, and tourism operators from across the state.
- We highlight specific recent QTIC submissions which can offer insight into key tourism industry priorities for Queensland and serve as foundational resources for the Authority:
 - 2023 [submission](#) to the Treasury regarding the *2024-25 Queensland Budget*.
 - 2023 [submission](#) to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning regarding the *Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Legacy Plan*.
- As the representative voice of tourism in Queensland, QTIC would welcome any opportunity to engage with the Authority once established. We are prepared to offer our expertise, insights, and collaboration to advance shared objectives.

QTIC looks forward to contributing to any future discussions relating to the Bill and supporting the work of the Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee. For clarification on any points raised in this submission, please contact QTIC on [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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