



Speech by

PHIL REEVES

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

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STADIUM CATERING SERVICES

Mr REEVES (Mansfield—ALP) (10.29 a.m.): As a person who has studied the economic impact of sporting events in particular areas for a number of years, I am a strong advocate for a major stadium in Brisbane. In particular, I believe that Lang Park is a venue where we can capitalise the most on the economic gains made through sporting events.

However, over the past few years I have become extremely concerned about one aspect of stadium management in the city, that is the catering component of such management. I am concerned about the emphasis on the amount of money that a catering company pays up front to the stadium to provide that service and not on the service or price that they are going to deliver to the customers. We must ensure that we are not pricing out the average mums and dads and their families who like to go to a particular sport.

Although sometimes ticket pricing is regarded as high, people have a choice as to whether or not they will pay that price to attend a particular event. However, once people go through the stadium gates, their freedom of choice virtually ceases because a catering company usually has exclusive rights to provide food. For example, at a sporting event, a pie costs \$2.40, and soft drinks cost between \$2.60 and \$3. Last weekend I attended the cricket test match. I went to order a Queensland product at the bar, a Bundaberg rum.

Time expired.
