



Speech by

Mr BRUCE LAMING

MEMBER FOR MOOLOOLAH

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GOODWILL GAMES

Mr LAMING (Mooloolah—LP) (7.22 p.m.): A search of the Goodwill Games web site today showed that of the 14 games to be contested in that event next year 12 are scheduled to be held in Brisbane, one on the Gold Coast and the location of the other is yet to be announced. One would have difficulty arguing against 11 of the sites chosen in and around Brisbane. The exception would possibly be the beach volleyball, which is set down for South Bank. That could well have been held on one of our magnificent beaches on the Sunshine or Gold Coasts. The Gold Coast will be holding the surf-lifesaving at Kurrawa Beach. Although there would have been a number of clubs on the Sunshine Coast capable of holding this event, I am sure that Kurrawa will do a great job.

However, as far as the triathlon is concerned—the one event yet to be located officially—it is really a no contest. The obvious choice would be the Sunshine Coast. It is Australia's capital of triathlons and comprises the nation's two best sites—Noosa and Mooloolaba. Obviously, my personal choice would be Mooloolaba. There is a history going back nearly 20 years of successful triathlon events on the Sunshine Coast and, as a consequence, the area has a strong community commitment to and experience in conducting and managing such events. If Queensland is going to maximise the promotional value of the Goodwill Games it is essential that we showcase our two magnificent coasts as well as Brisbane. I call on the Goodwill Games organisers, Queensland Events and all honourable members to support the Sunshine Coast as the venue for the Goodwill Games triathlon.
