



Speech by

JO-ANN MILLER

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Hansard 1 May 2003

SPORTS DRUG TESTING BILL

Mrs MILLER (Bundamba—ALP) (3.53 p.m.): I rise to support the Sports Drug Testing Bill 2003. The bill has four clear objectives: firstly, to protect the health of Queensland athletes, to protect our state's sporting reputation, which is outstanding both nationally and internationally, to protect the government's financial investment in sport and to recognise the expectations of members of our community that athletes who represent this state or who receive government support are obliged to compete fairly on a level playing field without the use of doping methods or drugs.

The bill was released for public consultation in November 2002 and it was placed on the Sport and Recreation Queensland and Office of Youth Affairs web sites, and many sports organisations were specifically consulted on the content of the bill. The bill complements the Commonwealth act, the Australian Sports Drug Agency Act 1990, and it ensures that there is a nationally consistent approach to drug testing in sport in Queensland. Sport is very important in my electorate of Bundamba. Rugby League, netball, soccer, swimming, Rugby Union, AFL, athletics, basketball and other sports are all played in my electorate by thousands of adults and children.

This Beattie Labor government is committed to sport in the Bundamba electorate. As we speak, the \$2 million sport and recreation centre is being built at Collingwood Park. It is a huge centre across the road from Redbank Plaza and highly visible from the Ipswich Motorway. It contains two internal multipurpose courts and other facilities. This work is expected to be completed by the end of June. The two external multipurpose courts are expected to be completed by the end of August, weather permitting. It will be a great asset to my community. It will keep my young people healthy and active and hopefully one day sportsmen and women who started at this centre will represent our great state in sporting events. I would like to thank the Minister for Sport for his commitment to sport in my local area, not only in Collingwood Park but also in Goodna and the Redbank Plains recreation reserves. I commend the bill to the House.