



Speech By Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

COMMONWEALTH GAMES ARRANGEMENTS (BRAND PROTECTION) AMENDMENT BILL

Mr CRANDON (Coomera—LNP) (5.42 pm): I rise to make a small contribution to the Commonwealth Games Arrangements (Brand Protection) Amendment Bill 2013. May I say how fantastic it is to hear the enthusiasm of my colleagues. It does not matter where you come from in Queensland you get enthusiastic about it. You are trying to hijack our tourists up to your areas! I can see it all. I can see a bit of jealousy going on. Even Pine Rivers is planning on winning most of the gold medals from what I recall from the contribution from the member for Pine Rivers. But it really is fantastic.

We are all Queenslanders. Some of us are fortunate enough to live on the Gold Coast. Our electorates are on the Gold Coast which means we are able to say, 'Yes, my electorate is on the Gold Coast where the 2018 Commonwealth Games are going to be held.' Some of you can say, 'Yes, I'm in Logan City, just next door to the Gold Coast where the 2018 Commonwealth Games are going to be held.' If you are in Brisbane, you can say, 'Yes, we are only a hop, skip and a jump from the Commonwealth Games venue on the Gold Coast.' If you are in the rest of Queensland, you can say, 'Yes, I'm from Queensland where the Commonwealth Games are going to be held on the Gold Coast.' So you always have that opportunity to talk about your state.

Mr McArdle: Be careful.

Mr CRANDON: I take the interjection. There are a number of genuine opportunities. I can just see it now. Last sitting week we had some Segways here for everyone to give them a bit of a test run, to have a bit of a run-around on them. One of my constituents is running businesses using Segways—those two-wheeled things.

Mr Emerson: I enjoyed that.

Mr CRANDON: The Minister for Transport certainly had a go and thoroughly enjoyed himself. I think he has framed photos in his office now of that little effort. They came from the Gold Coast. We are talking about people on the Gold Coast. They are innovative. One of my constituents is looking to get those Segways. I can just see them now running around the villages, running around the retirement villages on these little Segways. I can see it now. We are going to be running around everywhere on these Segways by 2018. It is going to be a great boost for our economy when we introduce those Segways, that is for sure.

Some of the areas covered by the bill are sponsorship revenue, determining 'official sponsor arranged programs' to allow revenue streams to flow back to sponsors. Enforcement of intellectual property is a very important one: cracking down on unauthorised images and providing protection against the use of advertising material, with police having the power to seize unauthorised goods. So that is great news. Another area is local product and content. This includes promoting the use of locally owned businesses within the Gold Coast and surrounding area, employing Queenslanders to create jobs and source local product that will instil pride and keep profits within our state. That is very, very important. This is the area I want to focus on in my small contribution to this debate.

A government member: Very small.

Mr CRANDON: I take the interjection. It is very important for my electorate. We do have a relatively high unemployment rate in my electorate. A lot of our people have been affected by the downturn in the building industry. It really is important that we start to ramp up now with some of the building and construction that will be going on over the next five years. That employment will not just be for the period of the games but it will heat up and build up over time right the way through to the games.

I am hopeful as well that we may win some games venues. I take the point that the member for Albert raised a short while ago. I understand that we might even have the shooting held in the electorate of Coomera. That is certainly something that we will be pushing for. As a matter of fact, my two brothers join a member of this parliament, the Manager of Government Business, every now and then to have a bit of shooting practice down there in the cane lands.

Coming back to the point the member for Albert was making, he seems to think that by the time the 2018 Commonwealth Games come around the boxing venue will be in his electorate and the table tennis venue will be in his electorate. Clearly he has not heard of the idea of the redistribution of boundaries. Sometime in the next five years there is going to be a redistribution more than likely in that area because of the growth in the population. So I suggest that the possibility is that in fact the state seat of Coomera will have the boxing venue, the table tennis venue and the shooting venue for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. That is what I am hoping for anyway. So he can do all the hard yards now and we will take all the glory when the distribution happens!

I commend the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games for the effort she has been putting in in relation to promoting the Commonwealth Games and all of the activities leading up to the Commonwealth Games. I do have one or two questions for her, however. One of them is: are we going to go down the nostalgia line? For instance, are we going to recycle Matilda? Matilda was on the coast for a while and she was moved up the north coast—somewhere in the Noosa area, if I remember correctly.

Mrs Stuckey: She's at Tugun.

Mr CRANDON: She is back at Tugun, is she? Are we going to recycle her for the Commonwealth Games as a bit of nostalgia?

Mrs Stuckey: She doesn't need recycling. She's just fine.

Mr CRANDON: I just thought it would be good if we could bring some nostalgia back to the games.

Mr Elmes interjected.

Mr CRANDON: I am hopeful that we will win those games venues. My constituents will certainly benefit greatly from the increased activity leading up to the Commonwealth Games. One thing is absolutely certain: we are in for a very exciting time in 2018. With those final words, I commend the bill to the House.