



Speech By  
**Shane King**


**MEMBER FOR KALLANGUR**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 October 2015

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Lake Kurwongbah, Waterskiing**

 **Mr KING** (Kallangur—ALP) (5.05 pm): I rise today to bring to the attention of the House recent events which have provided fairer access for users of Lake Kurwongbah in my electorate. For over 50 years, waterskiers and rowers have shared our lake and enjoyed its beauty while enjoying their activities. Under the old Pine Rivers shire council, the Lake Kurwongbah Water Ski Zone was set up. As the lake is fairly small, numbers of club members have been limited by council rules and now are set by Seqwater. The number of boats allowed to be used concurrently for skiing has been set by the level of water in the lake at any particular time.

In early 2014 Seqwater made a decision to allow water paddlers on the lake as part of their water quality review of water resources in the area and, as a consequence, kicked skiing off the lake completely—after 50 years. Rowing was not affected. The Lake Kurwongbah Water Ski Zone approached me as the then candidate for the state seat of Kallangur to see if any help could be rendered to assist them to get back access to this beautiful resource in my electorate. I enlisted the help of my friend and neighbouring candidate and now MP, Nikki Boyd, and together we worked with the Lake Kurwongbah Water Ski Zone and the then opposition to approach Seqwater to see what could be done. At no time was there any expectation from the Lake Kurwongbah Water Ski Zone to remove paddlers from the lake. All the skiers wanted was shared access in some form.

After some months and a parliamentary petition sponsored by Curtis Pitt, Seqwater relented in part and allowed the skiers to access the lake from Tuesdays to Thursdays inclusive. While this outcome was a relief for the skiers, it was still somewhat unfair as skiers could not ski with their families on the weekends. After the election Nikki Boyd, the skiers and I continued to lobby Seqwater for a better outcome. I am pleased to announce that we have reached an interim arrangement whereby skiers can access the lake on one weekend day and paddlers can have the other weekend day. The preferred final outcome is, of course, for mutual shared access under a zoned arrangement. We will continue to work with Seqwater to achieve this fairer outcome. I would like to thank Nikki Boyd and Seqwater for their continued consultative approach to this issue and hope we can continue to work at the conclusion of the water quality survey.