




Speech By  
**Nikki Boyd**

**MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

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### **MAJOR SPORTS FACILITIES AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (4.08 pm): I rise today to speak in support of the Major Sports Facilities Amendment Bill 2022. This bill establishes Stadiums Queensland as the authority responsible for managing, operating, using, developing and promoting facilities in Queensland. As Queensland prepares for the world stage as host of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, it is a timely reform as stadiums will be the location to showcase our phenomenal Australian and Queensland talent. Already our facilities are used for the staging of national and international sports, recreational, entertainment or special events.

I personally have fond memories as a foundation fan watching my NRL team, the Brisbane Broncos, play at Lang Park, along with the mighty Maroons; sweltering in the sun watching the Bulls or the Heat at the Gabba or cheering on the Bombers as they trollop the Lions—

**Mr McCallum** interjected.

**Ms BOYD:** I take the interjection from the member for Bundamba. Or my first visit to Boondall to watch *Grease* as a teenager—

**Mr Healy:** Not so long ago.

**Ms BOYD:** I take the interjection from the member for Cairns—or my most recent show, my daughter's first, as The Wiggles came to town. These are the locations that bring us together, that allow us to form special memories or to form a shared bond. They are the locations where we cheer, laugh or occasionally cry together.

My most traumatising memory in a stadium actually happened in Sydney as my husband, a Cowboys fan, and myself, a Broncos fan, made a trip down to the 2015 NRL grand final. In the final minutes of the game, I turned to him and saw the look on his face and asked, with genuine concern I might add, if he would be okay when the Cowboys lost. Of course, JT crossed the line in the dying minutes and scored, winning the grand final—

**Mr Harper:** You have to remind the House of that. Fantastic! What a win for North Queensland!

**Mr Walker** interjected.

**Ms BOYD:** I take the interjections from the members for Thuringowa and Cairns. JT crossed the line in the dying minutes and scored, winning the grand final and after a moment of cheering, hollering and all round high-fives, he turned to me and said, 'Are you going to be okay?' I can update the House that I am still not okay, seven years on.

**Mr Harper:** You'll get over it.

**Ms BOYD:** I take the interjection from the member for Thuringowa. In airing my ongoing grief, I highlight the importance of these venues as the place they hold not only in the fabric of our communities but also the vehicle they provide for us to be able to form connections, or disconnections in my instance, with others. They are critical, and it is critical that we ensure that they are best placed to continue to remain contemporary and responsive so that they can continue to be a special place to go.

This reform delivers on the completion of the Stadium Taskforce review and interim review of all of the recommendations which will improve the commercial agility and governance of Stadiums Queensland. These reforms allow for development opportunities at venues to generate additional revenue and community services. Whether you love to frequent the Gabba, Brisbane Entertainment Centre, Lang Park, Carrara stadium, Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre, Queensland Tennis Centre, Robina stadium, Sleeman Sports Complex or the Townsville stadium, this bill will allow for these facilities to be better placed for the future. They will be more agile, more contemporary and better governed. I commend the bill to the House.