




Speech By  
**Peter Russo**  
**MEMBER FOR TOOHEY**

---

Record of Proceedings, 26 October 2022

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

 **Mr RUSSO** (Toohey—ALP) (4.48 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Major Sports Facilities Amendment Bill. The Major Sports Facilities Amendment Bill was introduced into the Legislative Assembly and referred to the Economics and Governance Committee on 17 August. The objects of the bill are to implement all outstanding Stadium Taskforce recommendations arising from its interim and final reports that require legislative amendments to the Major Sports Facilities Act; improve the governance, commercial agility and performance of Stadiums Queensland; and meet public and government expectations of the management of a significant portfolio of publicly owned assets. The committee in its report No. 33, which was tabled in the Assembly on 7 October 2022, has recommended to the Assembly that the bill be passed.

Stadiums Queensland is the authority responsible for managing, operating, using, developing and promoting facilities in Queensland. These facilities are used for the staging of national and international sports, recreation, entertainment or special events. Stadiums Queensland has a well-deserved reputation for providing world-class experiences for patrons, hirers, participants and visitors to the facilities it manages.

In 2018 the then minister established the Stadium Taskforce to review Stadiums Queensland and, if passed, the Major Sports Facilities Amendment Bill will implement outstanding task force recommendations requiring legislative amendments. This will enable developmental opportunities at Stadiums Queensland venues to generate additional sources of revenue for Stadiums Queensland or its leaseholders and provide broader benefits to the community.

The task force presented its final report in November 2018 to government, with the report containing 36 recommendations. There were an additional 17 recommendations included in the interim report. The final report identified that the overall governance and accountability arrangements under the Major Sports Facilities Act were working well. However, there were proposed legislative amendments to contemporise governance arrangements to ensure public and government expectations continued to be met.