



Speech By  
**Hon. Jann Stuckey**

**MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 August 2014

## **MAJOR EVENTS BILL**

### **Introduction**

 **Hon. JA STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games) (12.06 pm): I present a bill for an act to provide for the holding of major events, the safety of visitors and spectators at major events, to allow visiting health practitioners to provide health care services for major events without becoming registered under state law, to protect the rights of event organisers and sponsors at major events and for related purposes, to amend this act, the Commonwealth Games Arrangements Act 2011, the Environmental Protection Act 1994, the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 and the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998, and the acts mentioned in schedule 1, for particular purposes, and to repeal the Motor Racing Events Act 1990 and the Health Practitioners (Special Events Exemption) Act 1998. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee to consider the bill.

*Tabled paper:* Major Events Bill 2014 [\[5738\]](#).

*Tabled paper:* Major Events Bill 2014, explanatory notes [\[5739\]](#).

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this bill, which will facilitate the holding of major events in Queensland. As a government, we understand that major events are important for Queensland. They bring life and vibrancy, encourage widespread community engagement and participation, and provide invaluable opportunities for Queensland to showcase her considerable assets to the rest of Australia and the world. Importantly, major events also contribute significantly to Queensland's economy by bringing business investment and visitors to the state. Tapping into the limitless stream of opportunities these events generate has seen local benefits through a boost to tourism visitation, creation of jobs and millions of dollars contributed to the Queensland economy.

Queensland already hosts an enviable calendar of major events; however, in coming years Queensland will host the 2015 AFC Asian Cup, the 2015 ICC Cricket World Cup and the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. These are in addition to the V8 Supercars motor-racing events currently held in Queensland.

As we have recently seen, the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games flag handover and closing ceremony, which was broadcast to over 1.4 billion people, was a once-in-a-lifetime chance to showcase a sample—a taste—of what our great state has to offer when the Gold Coast hosts the Commonwealth Games in 2018. The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games will be the largest sporting event in Australia for more than a decade, drawing 6,500 athletes and team officials as well as spectators and visitors from across the world.

The games will provide the catalyst to drive lasting economic benefits for Queensland, with \$2 billion being injected into the state economy and up to 30,000 new jobs being created. This major

event will also deliver an opportunity to strengthen Queensland's reputation as Australia's premier tourism destination and reinforce our status as an attractive place to invest and do business.

Increasingly it is becoming the norm for the governing bodies of major sporting codes or event organisers to seek certain legislation as part of a bid process to host a major event. For example, the bid book and the host city contract for the 2018 Commonwealth Games include a range of commitments that require legislation. In the past, legislation for major events has been developed on an ad hoc basis as it has been required. This has resulted in a range of disparate legislation that may be invoked for a major event by a separate regulation or declaration. The government is introducing the Major Events Bill to provide a generic legislative framework that may be used for the conduct of future major events held in Queensland. A range of provisions in current legislation that relate to major events will be consolidated into a single act.

The bill contains provisions relating to transport management, including the ability to prescribe major event lanes, temporarily close roads and remove vehicles and vessels from major event areas. The bill also contains commercial protections to assist event organisers in staging an event. This includes prohibiting street trading in the vicinity of venues, ticket scalping, ambush marketing by intrusion, unauthorised broadcasting and prohibition of certain advertising such as aerial advertising and advertising on buildings and vessels. To ensure the safety of patrons and effective crowd management, the bill provides for the control of entry and prohibition of certain items from major event areas and police and authorised person powers to control antisocial behaviour. The bill also provides registration exemptions for visiting health practitioners to enable visiting health practitioners from overseas who are accompanying athletes or visitors to provide healthcare services to them.

The bill allows for an event to be prescribed by regulation as a major event only after consideration of the size, scale and nature of the event and whether it is in the public interest to do so. The regulation will also prescribe which components of the bill apply to the event and the period that the provisions apply. Not all components of the bill will be required for each major event. This will enable government to scale the requirements based on the nature and size of each event. For example, while the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games may require a full suite of the legislation, other major events such as the V8 Supercars would require fewer provisions to be prescribed. The bill repeals the Motor Racing Events Act 1990 and the Health Practitioners (Special Events Exemption) Act 1998 and also omits chapter 19, part 2 from the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000, replacing them with a more efficient and streamlined single piece of legislation. This cuts red tape and provides ongoing red-tape reduction by alleviating the need for further event-specific legislation to be drafted for future major events in Queensland. In addition, the bill provides a more efficient model and streamlined process for event organisers.

This bill also contains an amendment to the Commonwealth Games Arrangements Act 2011 and minor amendments to other legislation. The amendment to the Commonwealth Games Arrangements Act will help prevent the use of protected games references in registered business and company names. Major events legislation will put Queensland on equal footing with other Australian jurisdictions that have similar legislation in place. It will send a clear message that Queensland recognises the value of major events and that we are the pre-eminent destination for major events. I commend the bill to the House.

### **First Reading**

**Hon. JA STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games) (12.13 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

### **Referral to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee**

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Dr Robinson): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee.