

Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium – Enabling Legislation Consultation – Feedback

I fundamentally oppose the Enabling Legislation for the Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium, given the purpose of the bill is to bypass due process including the role of the Tasmanian Planning Commission. The erosion of that due process would set an unacceptable precedent and represents a cynical and repugnant political expediency given the concerns identified in the Tasmanian Planning Commission's draft report.

In addition, I oppose the legislation's purpose given the cost of the proposed stadium is estimated to be \$945 million¹ in a fiscal environment which, as per the 2025/26 Budget:

- 1) The state's net debt is expected to reach \$7.3 billion in the upcoming financial year.²
- 2) In four years' time, the state's budget is projected to balloon to almost \$10.8 billion.³
- 3) The interest repayments on that debt are expected to rise to almost \$650 million a year by 2028-29.⁴
- 4) The cost estimate of the stadium excludes key items including underground carpark and northern road.⁵

Further, I strongly object to provisions within the legislation that gives the Minister for Industry, Business and Resources the power to amend any relevant planning scheme or order if it is inconsistent with the stadium.⁶ Given the stadium's conflict with, amongst other things, sightlines associated with the cenotaph, those provisions threaten key heritage and cultural values within Nipaluna / Hobart.

On that note, the fact that the proposed bill "extinguishes all rights of appeal", including the right to appeal to a court or tribunal or seek a review under the Judicial Review Act 2000,⁷ is absolutely unacceptable – an issue that further compounds the erosion of due process as discussed at the start of this submission.

In summary, I object in the strongest possible terms to how the legislation is designed and its object – a stadium that will burden Tasmania with unacceptable debt at a time when the Government is proposing to cut approximately 2,500 public service jobs by 2032-33.⁸

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¹ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-28/hobart-macquarie-point-stadium-legislation-explained/105343576>

² <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-29/2025-tasmanian-budget-explainer/105337842>

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

⁵ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-28/hobart-macquarie-point-stadium-legislation-explained/105343576>

⁶ Ibid

⁷ Ibid

⁸ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-29/2025-tasmanian-budget-explainer/105337842>