

To the Members of the Tasmanian Parliament,

I write in high support of the Macquarie Point Planning Permit Bill 2025, which is a critical piece of legislation to unlock the full potential of the Macquarie Point precinct and deliver a long-overdue infrastructure and cultural development in Hobart.

This bill provides the clarity and planning certainty necessary to proceed with the construction of the multi-purpose stadium—an essential component of Tasmania’s entry into the national AFL competition. The stadium is not just a sporting venue—it’s a venue we as Tasmanians can call ours and be proud of that will create jobs, attract investment, and rejuvenate the city and state.

Key Reasons for Supporting the Bill:

1. A National-Standard Stadium for a National Team.

Tasmania has earned its place in the AFL. A team without a home ground is like a heart without a body. The Macquarie Point stadium ensures our team has a world-class venue, providing a base that unifies the state and gives our young athletes something to aspire to.

2. Economic and Social Benefits

Independent modelling has shown that this project will inject hundreds of millions into our economy, with flow-on effects in tourism, construction, hospitality, and retail. Importantly, it will create hundreds of jobs during construction and ongoing employment once operational.

3. Urban Renewal Done Right

Macquarie Point has sat dormant for far too long. This bill ensures the land is finally put to productive use. The stadium will be part of a broader urban renewal vision that includes green spaces, cultural facilities, hospitality, and improved public transport connections—benefiting visitors and locals alike.

4. Planning Transparency with Certainty

The bill does not override good planning principles—it facilitates them. With strong design, heritage, and environmental oversight still in place, it ensures the project meets the highest standards while providing certainty that the project can proceed without being held back time after time by delays or political shenanigans.

5. Broad Public Support

Despite vocal opposition from a small minority, public sentiment—especially among younger Tasmanians—is strongly in favour of the stadium. Petitions supporting the development have attracted tens of thousands of signatures. People want to see progress within our state not a sense of “nothing will ever be done”.

The stadium and precinct is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to build something exciting and lasting for Tasmania’s future. I urge you to support the Macquarie Point Planning Permit Bill 2025 and help deliver a legacy that our children and grandchildren can be proud to say is there “stadium”.