



Sid Sidebottom MP ... for a fair go in Braddon

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Mako Shark Recreational Fishing Solution

Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom has today welcomed the introduction of legislation into the House of Representatives by Federal Environment Minister Peter Garrett to allow the continuation of recreational fishing of mako and porbeagle sharks.

Mr Sidebottom said the amendments to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) provide for a balance between protecting the shark species in a way that reflects our national circumstances and does not disproportionately affect recreational fishers.

"I am very pleased that this legislation has been introduced to legalise the recreational fishing of mako sharks," Mr Sidebottom said.

Mr Sidebottom said the new legislation would overcome a previous legal requirement of the Commonwealth to automatically protect a species listed as threatened by the internationally binding convention on Migratory Species – a requirement inherited from the Howard Government.

"I thank those fishing organisations and individuals who contacted me about the issues, and I congratulate Minister Garrett on acting so quickly to introduce this legislation," he said.

"I call on Senator Richard Colbeck and the Opposition to supports its quick passage through the parliament."

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