



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

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LEGISLATION TO END MAKO FISHING BAN PASSED

Legislation to end a ban on Mako Shark fishing has been passed in the Senate with an agreement to amend the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, says Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom MP.

Mr Sidebottom said that the amendment would help to restore the status quo for the popular fishery in Tasmania.

“Early on in this debate I was able to share the concerns and fears of North-West Tasmanian anglers with the Environment Minister, and this helped convince him to pursue the amendment,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“Shark fishing is a very popular and economically valuable part of the recreational fishery in the region, and so this is a good day for fishermen.”

Mr Sidebottom said many locals had been frustrated by the uncertainty created by the ban, but this had come about because of International agreements which triggered the EPBC Act.

“This was unavoidable, but I was happy to work with recreational fishermen and some of my other colleagues in the Government to make it clear how such changes can impact on everyday people,” he said.

The amendment must now go through the final stages of ratification by the House of Representatives and receive Royal Assent before it becomes law.

“This should see everything complete and ready before the weather improves and our many fishers head to the waters.”

For more information or to arrange an interview call: Luke Sayer on 0458 311 355