

## Betting Tax and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

**Submission No:** 1  
**Submitted by:** Ken O'Dowd  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:**  
**Submitter Comments:**

14 October 2022

Committee Chair  
Education, Employment and Training Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Via email: [cetc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:cetc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

## **Betting Tax and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022**

Dear Chair,

I write in my individual capacity in response to the *Betting Tax and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (the Bill)*.

I have been a long-time passionate advocate for, and participant in, the Queensland thoroughbred industry.

My [maiden speech](#) in the Commonwealth Parliament referenced my commitment to racing, where I noted: “my real passion is horse racing, and I have dabbled in most aspects of the game: owner, breeder, bookmaker, and punter, win or lose.”

I remain deeply concerned about the rise of online gambling at the expense of punters in pubs, clubs, and racetracks. I am worried that online gambling accelerated during COVID. I am concerned that the companies benefiting most are foreign-owned gambling giants licensed in the Northern Territory and sending their megaprofits offshore — companies such as Sportsbet, Ladbrokes and Bet365.

It's not right that gambling megaprofits are ending up in Gibraltar or the Isle of Man – more of the money spent by Queenslanders should remain in Queensland.

During my time in Canberra, I raised concern over the actions of Responsible Wagering Australia. I reiterate my call that this political lobby group should be on the Commonwealth Government's Foreign Influence Transparency Register.

As I said in a [speech in the House of Representatives in 2021](#), when you place a bet with the TAB, that money stays in Australia. The money earned from the TAB funds Australian racing.

I want to see racing remain strong and the Queensland regions remain vibrant.

Accordingly, I support this legislation and associated reforms.. Online bookmakers should return a fair share of profits to Queensland race clubs, which is what this legislation achieves.

As a friend of the industry, I question why it took the Queensland Government so long to act.

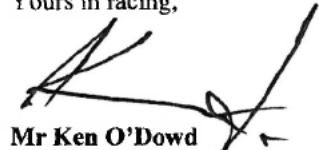
Like any good punter, I like to back winners – and this reform will help ensure that the Queensland racing industry is the best-funded and most sustainable industry in the country.

That is something we can all support.

Thank you for the chance to participate in this Committee.

I am contactable via [REDACTED] should you have further questions for me.

Yours in racing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken O'Dowd', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mr Ken O'Dowd**  
Federal Member for Flynn 2010 – 2022