

Queensland Police Union of Employees

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Ian Berry MP
Chair
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

27 March 2013



Dear Ian,

**RE: *The Liquor and Gaming (Red Tape Reduction)
and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013***

I write in relation to concerns members of the Queensland Police Union ("QPU") have raised with me concerning the above Bill and the proposed reforms to liquor licencing laws; particularly the removal of the need for a permit for the sale of alcohol at "community events".

Under the proposed exemptions, there will be no designated area for the sale or consumption of alcohol. In cases such as school fetes or similar outdoor type gatherings, there is potential for patrons to consume liquor throughout the event.

The QPU believes this will give rise to potential issues and/or dangers. For example it will reduce the ability of event organisers from fully supervising the consumption of liquor and safety of patrons.

It also has potential to allow minors to be supplied liquor by others away from the service area.

Finally, issues such as bottles or containers (particularly if not completely empty) being left around school grounds arise with the associated danger to children from broken glass or access to half consumed drinks.

The QPU recommends in clause 127 inserting a new section 13(1) to be amended in committee to include an additional requirement in the following terms:

13(1)(h) in the case of an outdoors event, the eligible entity ensures there is a designated and clearly defined area for the sale and consumption of alcohol at the event and takes reasonable steps to prevent alcohol being removed from such area;

13(1)(i) where subsection (h) does not apply, the eligible entity takes all reasonable steps to prevent the removal of alcohol from, or the consumption of alcohol outside, the premises or place used for the event.

The QPU believes the adoption of this additional requirement will ensure the proposed exemptions will achieve the Government's purposes of red tape reduction, while still ensuring community safety.

I am available on 3259 1900 should you wish to discuss any of the matters I have raised.

Yours Faithfully



IAN LEAVERS
GENERAL PRESIDENT & CEO

cc: Hon Campbell Newman MP, Premier of Queensland
cc: Hon Jarrod Bleijie MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice