



Research Director
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000
lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

17 February 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Liquor and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017: a Queensland tourism perspective

The Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) welcomes the opportunity to share with the Committee the views of our member tourism operators in the state concerning the objectives of the *Liquor and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017* (the Bill).

It is understood that the main objective of the Bill is to address the findings of the Tackling Alcohol-Fuelled Violence Legislation Amendment Act 2016 interim evaluation report by making the following amendments:

- *Repeal the lockout;*
- *Repeal the 3a.m. Safe Night Precincts model;*
- *Wind back trading hours for licensees removed from an SNP due to a boundary change;*
- *Tighten the temporary late-night extended hours permit regime;*
- *Extend banning order sentencing regime to prescribed drug offences.*

In a submission made to the *Tackling Alcohol-Fuelled Violence Legislation Amendment Bill 2015*, QTIC had expressed to the Committee that the Queensland tourism industry (widely surveyed in January 2016) were unconvinced of the proposed lockout at 1:00a.m. in Safe Night Precincts, an initiative which potentially would have added unnecessary confusion to the provisions and did not appear to offer any significant positive benefit to address the problem at hand.

As such, QTIC **supports** the Queensland Government's evidence-based policy approach and the subsequent decision to **'Repeal the lockout'** in the Bill.

Further, as the purpose of the 3a.m. Safe Night Precincts model was to distinguish between areas with/without a lockout, QTIC **supports** the **'Repeal of the 3a.m. Safe Night Precincts model'**, consequently prescribing 3a.m. liquor service hours with no lockout to approved licensees located in all 15 Safe Night Precincts in Queensland.

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QTIC expresses concern as to the impact on businesses from the Bill's objective to 'Wind back trading hours for licensees removed from an SNP due to a boundary change', without clear research showing the number and types of businesses to be impacted from boundary changes.

QTIC further raises concern regarding the potential additional impost on businesses to apply for late-night extended hour permits for public and special events, as per the Bill's objective to 'Tighten the temporary late-night extended hours permit regime'. The halving of the number of permits granted (from 12 to 6) in a calendar year may also constrain the events development in some localities.

QTIC welcomes further discussion with the Committee on this Amendment Bill.

Kind regards,

Daniel Gschwind
Chief Executive
Queensland Tourism Industry Council