



5 April 2017

Research Director
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

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Submission re: Liquor (Rural Hotels Concession) Amendment Bill 2017

With reference to the policy objectives and reasons for the Liquor (Rural Hotels Concession) Amendment Bill, Clubs Queensland supports not only the intentions of the Bill but also the proposed model of achieving the policy objectives.

However, it is Clubs Queensland's belief that there are some competitive inconsistencies which shall arise within those communities affected by the proposed regulatory amendments as they currently stand, as outlined below:

- I. The Liquor Licence Fee schedule, published by the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation stipulates the Base Fee for a Commercial Hotel Licence as \$3,507.00. Should the Bill be passed, this would result in the fee for a Commercial Hotel Licence in a "very remote area" being reduced to \$350.70.
- II. Currently, a Community Club with 2000 members or less operating in the same "very remote area" faces a base licence fee of \$648.00 – some 85% higher than what the commercial operation in the same area would face should the Bill pass through the House un-amended.
- III. Similarly, a Community Club with more than 2000 members or less operating in the same "very remote area" faces a base licence fee of \$2,857.00 – some 714% higher than what the commercial operation in the same area would face should the Bill pass through the House un-amended.

As evidenced above, the passage of the Bill in its current form creates a financial benefit for commercial operations within these very remote communities, whilst retaining a financial impediment for community-based operations in those very same communities.

It is Clubs Queensland's belief the impact of this Bill could potentially apply to some 32 Clubs operating in very remote areas of Queensland, as listed below.

- Erub (Daido) Community Club
- Pormpuraaw United Brothers Sports Club
- Georgetown Golf Club
- Weipa Bowls Club Inc
- Carpentaria Golf Club Inc.
- Barcaldine Bowling Club

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- Aramac Bowls Club
- Augathella RSL Mem Bowls
- Cunnamulla Bowls Club
- Cunnamulla Golf Club
- Quilpie Club Inc
- Winton Sub-Branch RSL Services
- Winton Bowls Club Inc
- Winton Golf Club
- Winton Club Inc
- Corfield Historical Sports Club Inc
- Blackall Golf Club
- Blackall Bowls Club
- Longreach RSL Memorial Services Club
- Longreach Bowling Club
- Longreach Golf Club Inc
- Isisford Golf Club Inc
- Hughenden Golf Club Inc
- Hughenden Bowling Club
- Hughenden Railway Social Club
- Karumba Recreation Club Inc.
- Boulia Golf Club Inc
- Alpha Golf Club Inc
- Richmond Bowling Club
- Richmond Golf Club
- Thursday Island Bowls Club

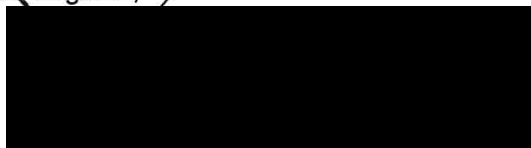
Recommendation:

Clubs Queensland urges the Committee to recommend passage of the Bill. In doing so it recommends the Committee also give consideration to either amendment of the Bill, or the introduction of a further Bill to address the financially uncompetitive environment visited upon the community clubs sector as a consequence of the currently proposed amendments.

Our organisation:

Clubs Queensland is the peak industry association of registered and licensed community clubs in Queensland. Community clubs are not-for-profit, member-owned and community-orientated associations of people who come together to pursue and promote their common recreational interests. There are approximately 1,100 sporting, returned services leagues, surf lifesaving, cultural, ethnic and special interests clubs in Queensland. Together, they hold 2.4 million memberships, employ over 22,000 people, return over \$850 million in social contributions and generate economic activity valued over \$2.2 billion in the Queensland economy.

Kind Regards,



Doug Flockhart

Chief Executive Officer