

Safe Night Out Bill 2014 Submission 014

BRUCE YOUNG MP MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

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Mr Ian Berry MP Member for Ipswich Chair of Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Dear lan,

As the Member for Keppel and a member of the Capricorn Coast Licenced Venues Liquor Accord, I would like to make a submission to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee on the Safe Night Out Legislation Amendment Bill 2014.

The Capricorn Coast Liquor Accord has a patron exclusion database which has been developed by members of the accord and serving police officers. Exclusion notices are served by officers to patrons that display repeated unruly behaviour and refuse to obey directions of the hotel management.

This system has worked extremely well but falls outside of the identified Safe Night Out Precincts which fifteen have been identified in regional Queensland and greater Brisbane.

Within those Safe Night Precincts, mandatory scanners will be utilised but on the Capricorn Coast, as is other small communities, the patron exclusion database is the only mechanism available for recognising patrons that have a history of unruly behaviour.

The Exclusion Notices that we have historically, have never had photographs of unruly patrons. This is of concern, especially with the changeover of staff and recognising unruly patrons. My reading of the legislation (Safe Night Out Amendment Bill 2014, Part 9 Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 Section 602A/W) provides the police to issue a banning notice which isn't restricted to a safe night precinct. An image can then be attached to the notice and distributed to the OLGR, an operator of the scanning device, licensees/managing, etc.

My understanding is that photographs of banned patrons will now be allowed and this would be extremely beneficial to those Licensees/Managers who do not have scanning devices. I am hoping the committee can make this as one of the recommendations.

Other concerns that I have are in regional towns where we have clubs that patrons will often walk between and it is those areas between clubs where crimes and vandalism often occur.

Another recommendation is for those areas that fall outside the Safe Night Precinct, in conjunction with the local government, have finance available for CCTV or extra lighting so that those areas are well lit to prevent crimes and vandalism.

I hope my submission is received favourably by the committee and if further information is required I am more than willing to attend a briefing with a member from the Capricorn Coast Licenced Venue Liquor Accord.

Yours sincerely

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Bruce Young MP Member for Keppel