



3 December 2015

The Research Director  
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee  
Parliament House  
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for allowing me to make a submission to the inquiry relating to the Tackling Alcohol-fuelled Violence Legislation Amendment Bill 2015.

As a resident of inner-city Sydney and somebody who enjoys an occasional night out, I have experienced first-hand the positive impact of the New South Wales government's alcohol measures, and I strongly endorse the proposed outcomes contained in the Queensland government's bill.

Prior to the introduction of the NSW measures, which include 10pm bottle shop closures, 1.30am lockouts, and the 3am cessation of alcohol service, inner-city Sydney after dark was often associated with large intoxicated crowds, anti-social behaviour and violence. Following the introduction of the measures, there was an overwhelmingly positive change in the late-night environment of the inner-city.

In a report into the effect of the alcohol restrictions, the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research found that there had been a significant reduction in alcohol-related assaults in the precincts subject to the measures, with no discernible displacement effect outside these areas<sup>1</sup>. Local hospitals also reported a major decrease in serious assault admissions<sup>2</sup>.

These results are not surprising, with numerous local and international studies finding that reducing alcohol service/trading hours is one of the most effective measures for combating violence<sup>3</sup>. Studies have also found a high correlation between venue density and violence<sup>4</sup>.

I strongly support the Queensland government's plan to tackle alcohol-related violence and anti-social behaviour through the enactment of this important bill.

Yours Faithfully,

Stephen Pate

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<sup>1</sup> Lockouts and last drinks: The impact of the January 2014 liquor licence reforms on assaults in NSW, Australia - <http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Documents/CJB/CJB183.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Lockout laws have reduced numbers hospitalised due to alcohol-related violence - <http://www.smh.com.au/comment/lockout-laws-have-reduced-numbers-hospitalised-due-to-alcoholrelated-violence-20150415-1mlliy.html>

<sup>3</sup> The impact of small changes in bar closing hours on violence. The Norwegian experience from 18 cities - <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1360-0443.2011.03643.x/epdf>

<sup>4</sup> Night Time Economy Management: International Research and Practice - [http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/131740/InternationalEvidenceLiteratureReview.pdf](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0016/131740/InternationalEvidenceLiteratureReview.pdf)