



14 December 2015

The below is a formal submission to The Legal Affairs & Community Safety Committee

Dear Committee Members,

It has been brought to our attention that an application has been made to allow the sales and service of alcohol at weekend and farmer's markets.

As third generation hoteliers, we believe that the introduction of late night licensing and trading into nightclubs in the seventies has been both adverse and detrimental to hotels. Our observations have been that a combination of alcohol and drug abuse in the nightclub scene has led to serious violence issues, some resulting in a fatality.

Consequently hotels are caught up in the strict compliance regime set up to tackle these social issues. That is, we are tarred with the same brush.

With the ongoing publicity campaigns against driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, why would the sale and service of alcohol at such an uncontrolled venue as a market place be being considered? Policing would be a nightmare, and a great expense to the taxpayer. Which government department would be responsible for this policing, considering the transient nature of markets? What about the issues of a liquor license, responsible serving of alcohol and responsible management of a licensed venue? All issues we have to comply with in order to sell alcohol. There is also the issue of exposing children to the selling and purchasing of alcohol in these uncontrolled environments.

The Government cannot be serious in even considering this extra proliferation of alcohol, when it claims to be outraged by the effects of alcohol in the media. Hypocrisy so easily highlighted.

Perhaps a far greater crack down on drug selling in the community should be a priority. If a record of the number of known & suspected drug sellers was undertaken & made public, most people would be outraged to discover that there are probably more people selling drugs in this country than there are Licensed Liquor selling outlets.

As a family we have often discussed the fact that hotels provide a social centre for people to socialise, enjoy cheap meals and, if desired, gamble in a safe and controlled environment. Please do not disregard these comments as they are sent to you with grit and determination.

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Can I publish the submission?

After the committee has authorised publication of a submission, submitters are welcome to include a link from their website to their submission on the Parliament's website.

Publication or disclosure of a submission that has not been authorised by a committee may be in breach of the rules of the Parliament, and subject to investigation and sanction for contempt of Parliament.

Submissions to Parliamentary Committees

A guide to making a submission to a committee of the Queensland Parliament

Parliamentary committees welcome submissions to their inquiries into bills and other matters. Submissions add to a committee's knowledge and understanding of issues relevant to the committee's inquiry and may influence a committee's recommendations to the Parliament.

Who can make a submission?

Any individual or organisation may make a submission to a committee.

When can a submission be made?

Parliamentary committees generally invite written submissions by advertising in the media and writing to organisations with an interest in a particular inquiry. Details of inquiries are published on a committee's website. Committee web subscribers are also notified. Submissions should be sent to the relevant committee by the advertised closing date. If you cannot send your submission in time, contact the committee research director. The committee may have a set date to complete its work and report to the Legislative Assembly, and may not be able to consider late submissions.

Are submissions public or confidential?

If a committee accepts a submission, it becomes part of the committee records and is usually placed on the committee's website as soon as possible to encourage public consideration. However a committee may decide that a submission (or part of it) should be kept confidential. Contact details of individuals (e.g. residential or e-mail addresses or phone numbers) are removed before submissions are published.

A committee can decide to keep a submission confidential, but cannot promise to do so in advance. If you want all or part of your submission to be kept confidential, you should state this clearly and explain the reasons in a covering email or letter.

What should be in a submission?

Your submission should set out your views, or those of your organisation, on one or more issues that the inquiry covers. In the case of an inquiry into a bill being considered by the Parliament, this may include the expected impact of the proposed legislation on you and others and any alternatives or changes to the bill you wish to recommend. Your submission should include facts and evidence that your views or recommendations are based on.

What format is required?

There is no required format for submissions. The purpose or the inquiry or the headings of the bill may be a useful starting point for the structure of your submission. For submissions on bills, it is helpful if you state the clause or clauses that your comments relate to.

Committees prefer written submissions (emailed, posted or faxed) that:

- are typed (in Word or PDF) or legibly handwritten with numbered pages
- are clearly structured, concise and accurate
- include evidence to support the opinions or recommendations in the submission
- are brief and to the point. If a submission needs to be long (e.g. 10 pages or more) it may assist the committee to include a brief summary of the main points.

Submissions should include:

- the author's name and signature
- if the submission is made on behalf of an organisation, the level of approval (e.g. a local branch, executive committee or national organisation)
- mailing address (and email if available)
- daytime telephone number.

If you wish to have a say but are unable to make a written submission, talk to the committee's staff about other options. Depending on the inquiry and the time available, committees may take oral (spoken) submissions.

How do committees deal with submissions?

Submissions are acknowledged by letter or email. After considering a submission's relevance and content, a committee will decide whether to accept it, and whether to publish it. Most submissions are accepted, and most are authorised for publication in full. Submitters are advised after a decision is made about publication.

A committee may decide not to accept a submission or not to publish all or part of it if, for example, the committee considers the submission:

- is not relevant or does not address the legislation or inquiry issues
- contains language which is offensive or may be defamatory
- is sub judice or otherwise offends the rules of Parliament, or
- is illegible.