c/o PO Box 1214
Bundaberg Qld 4670

Law, Justice and Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Email: ljsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

RECEIVED

03 DEC 2009

Law, Justice and Safety
Committee

150

1 December 2009

Support of Valley Liquor Accord Proposal

Dear Sir / Madam

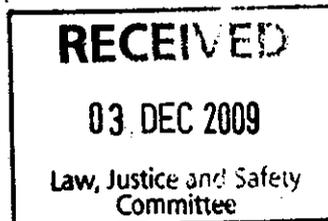The Bundaberg / Bargara Liquor Accord would like to support the Valley Liquor Accord proposal to the Law, Justice and Safety Committee.

Under the proposal from the Valley Liquor Accord a person found guilty of offences by the court would then be banned by a court order from returning to the Valley Entertainment Precinct. Proposed bans include:

- Urinating in a public place – six months;
- Refusing to leave licensed premises – six months;
- Common assault – 12 months;
- Glass assault – two years;
- Selling drugs – five years;
- Assault police officer – five years.

The Bundaberg / Bargara Liquor Accord has had a banning process in place since 1 March 2008 and have had a significant decrease in incidents reported to Liquor Licensing. Members of the Liquor Accord have worked hard to put the responsibility of patron's actions back onto the patron if you like, trying to get a 'behavioural shift' in the drinking public.

To date the Bundaberg / Bargara Liquor Accord has had no repeat offenders in its twelve month banning process for serious incidents. Surveys facilitated by the Liquor Accord identified that most patrons go out to be with their friends, and a twelve month ban curtails the offending patron's ability to join their friends in using the facilities of Liquor Accord members.

The Bundaberg / Bargara Liquor Accord would like to see bans added to court punishments as a way to further discourage antisocial behaviour which wastes government resources especially in the fields of Emergency Services and Health. Hence Liquor Accord members would like to add their support to the Valley Liquor Accord proposal.

Yours faithfully

Geoff McIntosh
Chairperson
Bundaberg / Bargara Liquor Accord