

Committee Secretary
State Development and Regional Industries Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Via email: sdric@parliament.qld.gov.au

RE: Justice Legislation (COVID-19 Emergency Response – Permanency) Amendment Bill 2021

I am making this submission to request that the Queensland Government support Queensland's **8,354 restaurants, cafes & caterers** and their **112,000 employees** by allowing takeaway liquor to be sold with a meal by:

- Increasing the 1.5L limit to 2.25L
- Allowing the sale of wine, beer and RTDs

Queensland's hospitality sector has been one of the hardest hit during the COVID-19 pandemic and the temporary takeaway liquor laws offered us the chance to keep our heads above water in this exceptionally challenging time.

Takeaway liquor has become an important source of revenue during this incredibly tough period and will be the difference between some venues staying open or shutting altogether.

Since the impact of nationwide lockdowns and the onset of COVID-19 in Australia, from March 2020 to February 2021, the turnover for liquor sales was \$16.06 billion, an increase of almost 30 percent from \$12.43 billion the previous year.

This is proof that the restaurant, café and catering sector can co-exist with bottle shops without taking their market share. This is especially the case in regional Queensland where the hospitality sector has been hit hardest.

In a time where the industry needs your help now more than ever, please don't let down the hardworking people of the hospitality sector.

Suppliers, business owners and the 112,000 Queenslanders who rely on hospitality employment are counting on you.

Sincerely,

Chris Edwards
Baseline Café - Tennyson

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