



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

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Hansard 25 November 1999

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Sale of Fortified Wine, Doomadgee

**Hon. P. D. BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central— ALP) (Premier) (11.29 a.m.), by leave: Members of this House would be aware that I appointed a Premier's task force headed by the honourable member for Mount Isa to visit Doomadgee to deal with outstanding issues. The member attended a meeting in Doomadgee yesterday. Today we have the first outcomes of that meeting. The leaders of the Doomadgee community asked Minister McGrady at yesterday's meeting to have the sale of a certain liquor item called "monkey blood" stopped. It is a port wine. I understand that it comes from the Rosetto winery in Griffith. Following discussions with the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Racing and Mr McGrady, the Government has reacted very quickly and in fact a ban has been applied by the Liquor Licensing Division in relation to the sale of the alcohol.

As honourable members know, the community is a dry community, but alcohol is still imported. Today, the executive director of the Liquor Licensing Division has issued an official order on the Burketown Hotel to cease, as of today, all sales of monkey blood, or black wine. This liquor is primarily purchased by some residents of Doomadgee. The order, under the provisions of the Liquor Act 1992, will be faxed to the Burketown police today. It will be served by them on the licensee to ensure that no further sales of this fortified wine take place. I advise the House that Mr McGrady spoke to Mayor Waldren this morning, and he is delighted with the decision taken by the State Government. I want to thank my ministerial colleagues Mr Gibbs and Mr McGrady for resolving this issue.

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