



Speech by

Tony ELLIOTT

MEMBER FOR CUNNINGHAM

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INTERACTIVE GAMBLING (PLAYER PROTECTION) AMENDMENT BILL

Mr ELLIOTT (Cunningham—NPA) (12.06 a.m.): I wish to make a couple of brief points. I think just about everything that needs to be said has been said tonight by some of the speakers from our side. However, I wish to add my two bob. This is a really sad affair. We have to wonder what makes these people tick. They do not seem to be able to help themselves. An interesting point was raised tonight by the honourable member for Gladstone, who referred to clause (4)(a), which states—

"... prohibit a disqualified person from having, or otherwise limit the extent to which a disqualified person may have, a beneficial interest in a licensed corporation ..."

Either the Government is going to prohibit these people from holding a gaming licence or it is not. It is a bit like the old saying "You can't be a little bit pregnant"; you either are or you are not. Therefore, you should be disqualified. Why is that clause in the legislation? Perhaps the Minister might indicate to us why it is there, the idea behind it and why it has not been taken out altogether. I reiterate that I find the whole affair very grubby. It has been quite amazing that these people, who pose as being purer than the driven snow, would involve themselves in this exercise. How could anyone possibly think they could get away with setting up an operation such as this and take up a beneficial position without anyone finding out or the public not seeing it? That is nothing short of amazing.
