

Liquor Law Review

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REBECCA [REDACTED]

To: Liquor Law Review; ▾

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Mon 9:23 PM

Inbox

To Whom It May Concern,

In response to the current review of the "Lockout" legislation which was what I consider, a knee-jerk reaction to horribly unfortunate events that occurred.

To me, this legislation was poorly thought out and ineffective in addressing the real issues surrounding alcohol related violence.

As a resident and property owner in [REDACTED] for the last 5 years, I have seen the extremely negative effect on the surrounding areas night time economy since the introduction of these laws.

The fact that the NSW Government displays open disdain for many quality operators with a blanket legislation that was written without consulting the industry, and shows no signs of remorse when small businesses are closing, costing livelihoods and huge numbers of jobs to students and hospitality professionals is disgraceful, backwards and draconian in nature. Especially when venues i.e the casinos are being given exemptions to allow people to access the pokies. I can't get my head around why it's ok to allow problem gamblers into a venue to feed their pay packets into a pokie machine however not allow those same patrons to enter a controlled environment to drink.

By damaging the night time economy of a once thriving city, and taking away the ability for shift workers and responsible adults to enjoy an unrestricted drink with friends after finishing work is ridiculous. If politicians and 9-5 workers were denied the ability to share a dram of their favourite spirit, how they wanted to consume it, in their favourite venue, there would be national uproar.

Just look at Melbourne, where lockouts, just like Sydney have failed miserably. We should adopt the measures that work in these cities like wider closing times in well run venues, small bars and community based venues to keep patrons in their local areas and not create bottlenecked entertainment precincts. 24 hour public transport so patrons can get home safely. Licencing police that don't target operators but work with venues to keep patrons safe and a greater police presence in high volume areas.

Drinks restrictions need to be reviewed in consultation with operators in order to make smart decisions. No-one is going out and assaulting members of the public because they consumed a neat cognac without a mixer after dessert.

Start holding the person accountable, not venues, not the entire public. Tougher sentencing on those committing assaults and more support for quality operators who continue to run establishments who provide a safe and enjoyable space for people to enjoy themselves.

The night time economy is incredibly important for this city, and it needs to be protected and helped to prosper.

Please review these laws, and give us a measured, reasonable alternative with an involved decision based on facts, not corruption and knee-jerk reactions.

Regards
Rebecca Khoo

Sent from my iPhone