

Blake Johnson

To whom it may concern,

My names Blake Johnson and I am writing to OLGR to express my dissatisfaction with the detailed three strike disciplinary scheme. Having worked in the hospitality industry since the age of 18 I have familiarised myself with the laws and legislations which we must adhere to. Regardless of the fact that I do adhere to them in my current job I do not believe that it is suitable to punish venues to the extent of which a three strike system details. The main reason for this opinion is that after the first strike which imposes a number of unfair penalties, the following two strikes are discretionary and impose further unfair penalties and rules on the venue. This could ultimately place the venue in financial jeopardy as these penalties and rules would be costly to the venue itself.

Being that I do not own a venue, but do manage one if a venue was to close its doors similar to a number of venues in Sydney when the new liquor laws were imposed in March 2014, this would not only affect the business as a whole but it would also have a devastating impact upon the community. Thus, venues provide the entire community with a safe and entertaining environment to socialise and enjoy, they also sponsor and support local community sporting groups and initiatives. Furthermore, they are a branch for employment throughout the community. Without venues where hospitality employees can be employed there would be a significant higher number of unemployed individuals within the community utilising our already exhausted and overused unemployment services. Consequently, adding to high government expenditure within the unemployment sector.

Therefore, in consequence of this I do believe the three strike system would create greater problems overall and perhaps government spending would be better suited to initiatives that don't hold the venue at fault due to the actions of individuals who do cause problems on their own volition.

Thank you for your time.

Regards

Blake Johnson

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