

# **ART UNIONS AND PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL 1997**

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **Short Title**

Art Unions and Public Amusements Amendment Bill 1997.

### **Objectives of the Legislation**

The Bill provides for the deregulation of public amusements with respect to the *Art Unions and Public Amusements Act 1992*.

### **Reasons for the Legislation**

At present, the licensing of public amusements is performed by the Queensland Office of Gaming Regulation.

Other public amusement regulatory functions are carried out by—

- (i) The Office of Consumer Affairs—Ensuring that public amusements are not offensive or objectionable.
- (ii) Queensland Police Service—Responsible for law and order issues.
- (iii) Local Authorities—Responsible for machine siting and local planning issues.

It is considered that all issues in relation to public amusements can be effectively handled through a combination of Local Authorities, Police and Consumer Affairs and that the licensing of public amusements and their operators is an unnecessary burden on an industry which is subject to a degree of overlapping regulation by local and State bodies.

**Estimated Cost for Government Implementation**

Receipts from public amusements licensing fees totalled \$513,108.46 in the 1995/96 financial year. No receipts have been budgeted for 1996/97.

**Assessment of Bill's Consistency with Fundamental Legislative Principles**

The Bill is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

**Consultation**

Inter-Departmental consultation was carried out with the Department of Justice, Department of Local Government and Planning, Department of Families, Youth & Community Care, Department of Education, Commissioner for Consumer Affairs and the Queensland Police Service.

Industry/Community consultation was carried out with the Local Government Association of Queensland (inc), Parents and Friends Association Qld, and the Amusement Machine Operators of Australia.

**NOTES ON PROVISIONS**

1. Short Title
2. Nominates the legislation to be amended
3. Deletes redundant wording from the Act title
4. States the new title of the Act
5. Removes all reference to public amusements from the object provisions of the Act
6. Removes "public amusement" from the definitions
7. Removes the meaning of public amusement from the Act
8. Removes the licensing provisions for public amusements
9. Removes the general provisions relating to public amusements

10. Removes the provisions for cancellation or suspension of public amusement licences
11. Removes the provision to immediately suspend public amusement licences
12. Removes public amusements from the Art Unions and Public Amusements Register
13. Removes public amusements from the Evidentiary Provisions
14. Removes the regulation making powers with respect to public amusements.