

News Release

Premier Jay Weatherill Deputy Premier John Rau

Minister for State Development

Attorney General

Minister for Planning

Minister for Business Services and Consumers



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Small venues to thrive in vibrant Adelaide

New laws to instigate a small venue culture in Adelaide will be introduced to Parliament today.

The *Liquor Licensing (Small Venue Licence) Amendment Bill 2012* will amend the *Liquor Licensing Act* to provide for a new category of liquor licence for small venues.

Premier Jay Weatherill said that the Government wants to encourage more small and local venues to thrive in the city – much like Melbourne’s laneway scene.

“This is another element in the Government’s plan to make Adelaide a more vibrant and energised place to live and work,” Mr Weatherill said.

“These reforms will make it easier for entrepreneurs to set up a variety of licensed businesses such as small specialist bars and hybrid café bars.

“I believe Adelaide has already begun to embrace this culture and we have had some very successful venues established over the past few years such as udaberri, Café Troppo and Cork Wine Café, but costs have often been barriers for young entrepreneurs.

“And we are seeing a range of pop-up businesses in the city - so we think a tailor-made licence to help the establishment of permanent smaller venues in Adelaide’s laneways and will create a livelier CBD.”

Minister for Business Services and Consumers John Rau said that the reforms will remove some of the barriers that prevent some small businesses from being established in the city.

“This reform will be a low cost, low doc licence, ideal for start-up businesses,” Mr Rau said.

“The Government has been hearing from small venue operators that the current structure of liquor licensing is inflexible and costly for their preferred business models.

“Consultation with these operators has produced streamlined reforms that will provide flexibility and simplicity required to nurture a diverse and robust hospitality industry in Adelaide.”

A small venue licence will include:

- Standard hours of service will be 11am to midnight or Good Friday with extensions of opening hours until 2am possible upon application.
- The maximum capacity will be limited to 120 patrons.
- No separate application for entertainment consent will be required (approval at the Commissioner’s discretion) for entertainment during standard hours of service.
- Gaming will not be permitted.

The reforms will apply initially for 12 months in the Adelaide CBD only. There is provision in the Bill for the reforms to apply in other areas of the State to be prescribed by regulation. This will only occur after consultation with relevant industry bodies and councils.