

# News releases - John Rau

## Consultation open on liquor licensing changes

John Rau

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South Australians are being encouraged to have their say on changes to liquor licensing laws aimed at cutting red tape, streamlining the licensing process and strengthening the regulatory system.

Attorney-General and Consumer and Business Services Minister John Rau today released draft amendments to the *Liquor Licensing Act 1997* and draft Community Impact Assessment Guidelines for public comment.

The proposed changes to liquor licensing laws reflect the Government's response to the Review of the *Liquor Licensing Act 1997* by former Supreme Court Justice Tim Anderson, and include:

- Streamlining liquor licensing categories
- Removing restrictions relating to the sale of liquor on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and New Year's Eve
- Tightening the laws relating to the supply of alcohol to minors
- Introducing a mandatory three hour break in trade for late night premises between 3am and 8am.

The Community Impact Assessment Guidelines covers issues that will need to be considered when the liquor licensing authority assesses certain high risk applications, such as late night venues or bottle shops, including:

- The harm that might be caused (whether to the community as a whole or a group within the community) due to the excessive or inappropriate consumption of liquor
- The cultural, recreational, employment or tourism impacts
- The social impact on the locality.

Public comment on the draft *Liquor Licensing (Liquor Review) Amendment Bill 2016* and guidelines closes on Friday 6 January at 5pm. For more information, or to comment on the documents, go to [yoursay.sa.gov.au](http://yoursay.sa.gov.au)

### Background

In his review of the Liquor Licensing Act, Mr Anderson made 129 recommendations aimed at ensuring South Australia had a contemporary liquor licensing regime that met community expectations and cut red tape while ensuring safeguards to protect the public remained in place.

The Government accepted the vast majority of Mr Anderson's recommendations, with some accepted either in part or in principle.

The Government has accepted Mr Anderson's recommendation to change the liquor licensing fee structure.

These changes will be dealt with through regulations developed in consultation with the industry.

**Quotes attributable to Consumer and Business Services Minister John Rau**

These changes represent the most significant reforms to our liquor licensing regime in nearly two decades.

They are designed to support the industry, build vibrancy and ensure we have a system that reflects contemporary standards.

I encourage members of the industry and any South Australian with an interest in the issue to have their say as we finalise these changes.