



8 September 2021

Mr Andrew Wallace MP

Chair, Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services

(via email only: [REDACTED])

Dear Mr Wallace

I am writing to you in your capacity as Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services regarding evidence given to the Committee during its hearing on Friday 3 September 2021.

During evidence given by Tabcorp, inaccurate imputations were made regarding the taxation and regulation of online wagering service providers licensed by the Northern Territory Government which I wish to correct.

There is no loss of taxation revenue or other economic contributions by virtue of Australia's major online corporate bookmakers' licensing in the Northern Territory. RWA members pay significant amounts of gambling tax in every state and territory and make significant payments to racing and sporting codes.

Last financial year, the members of RWA paid \$1.428 billion in taxes and legislated fees in Australia.

Over the course of Financial Years 2017/18 to 2020/21 the amount of gambling taxes and GST paid by the members of RWA increased by 497%. According to Tabcorp's Annual Report over the same period their "taxes, levies, commissions and fees" paid by their wagering and media business increased by only 8%. Over this same period, the contributions paid to the Australian racing industry by RWA members increased by 130%, whilst Tabcorp's contributions increased by only 13%.

RWA members also employ more than 2150 Australians, more than 500 of whom are based in Darwin, providing a significant economic contribution to the Northern Territory.

It is also important to note that Tabcorp's licensing by multiple jurisdictions rather than one is not an altruistic sacrifice but rather an arrangement which affords significant commercial advantages. This includes monopoly rights over specified products and services in those jurisdictions, for example the ability to operate retail betting facilities, including in the Northern Territory.

I would welcome an opportunity to discuss any further questions you might have regarding the operation of the Australian-licensed wagering industry. Please do not hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

James Duncan

General Manager, External Affairs