Interactive Gambling Amendment Bill 2016 [Provisions] Submission 16

My name is Shane Murray and I currently enjoy participating in online poker games.

I am very concerned at the IGA amendment that has been proposed for later this month.

As a married, working, father of 3x young children my social activities have been curtailed somewhat and these days are very limited.

One of my few enjoyments is participating in online poker tournaments that, for a relatively low cost (\$0.50c - \$2.50), can provide hours of enjoyment. This can be done from the comfort of my own lounge room so enables my kids to be supervised, no worry about RBT's nor the lure of the ever present, money grabbing, poker machines that would accompany a visit to a local club or the casino should I wish to participate in poker in a live environment.

Surely the funds lost over the online poker felt would pale in significance to the funds frittered away through poker machines, horse racing, sports betting or casino games.

I appreciate the governments desire to tax operators in Australia and the possibility of licencing poker providers however from my understanding even this is prohibited under this proposal.

I also understand there are problem gamblers but fail to understand why the vast majority of sensible participants should be punished for the actions of a few irresponsible people who, lets face it, will just find another avenue to part with their money.

Please don't turn this once great, free country into an even worse nanny state than it has already become!

At what point do we as grown adults have to take responsibility for our own actions instead of having to be pandered for by overbearing Government legislation?

Please add my email to be an IGA Amendment Bill 2016 Submission.

Regards

Shane Murray