



7 June 2013

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform

Mr Andrew Wilkie MP, Chairman of the Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform, today presented the committee's fifth report on:

- the advertising and promotion of gambling services in sport; and
- the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Advertising for Sports Betting) Bill 2013.

The recommendations are found below.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

3.37 The committee recommends that the government and government agencies review the self-regulatory action being taken by industry with a view to legislating in this area if industry does not make appropriate changes regarding the promotion of gambling products in an environment which includes children.

Recommendation 2

3.39 The committee recommends that the government and government agencies review the current exemption of gambling advertising for sporting programs. This review would include processes to ensure an appropriate level of public consultation.

Recommendation 3

3.41 The committee recommends that the Australian Gambling Research Centre undertake or commission further research on the longer-term effects of gambling advertising on children, particularly in relation to the 'normalisation' of gambling during sport.

Recommendation 4

3.43 The committee recommends that the COAG Select Council on Gambling Reform work towards nationally consistent requirements for responsible gambling messages to ensure they work effectively as harm minimisation measures to counterbalance the promotion of gambling.

Recommendation 5

3.51 The committee recommends that the COAG Select Council on Gambling Reform review the amount of betting promotion at venues, including the display of sports betting promotion on uniforms for senior teams to determine whether the amount is appropriate in what is marketed as a family friendly environment. This review should include avenues for public consultation.

Recommendation 6

3.56 The committee recommends that the Minister for Sport work with the Australian Wagering Council and professional sporting codes to urgently review the availability of merchandise to children featuring sports betting logos or names.

Recommendation 7

3.59 The committee recommends that the Australian Gambling Research Centre undertake or commission further research on the effect of mobile phone applications on problem gambling, what harm minimisation features would be effective and how best to incorporate these features into regulatory structures.

Recommendation 8

4.50 The committee recommends that the DRALGAS Office of Sport, in consultation with stakeholders, develop appropriate tools and resources that amateur sport can use to increase the awareness of participants to the risks and threats to the integrity of their sport.

Recommendation 9

5.5 The committee recommends that the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Advertising for Sports Betting) Bill 2013 not be passed.

Dissenting comments have been provided by the Chair and Senators Di Natale and Madigan as well as a dissenting report from Senator Xenophon. These follow the committee report. Coalition committee members have also provided additional comments.

Copies of the report are available from the committee website below and the secretariat.

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate_Committees?url=gamblingreform_ctte/gambling_sport/index.htm

For comment: Mr Andrew Wilkie MP, Chair
Ph: Django Merope-Synge 0428 528 673

Secretariat contact:

Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform

Phone: **02 6277 3113**

Fax: 02 6277 5952

Email: gamblingreform@aph.gov.au