



Australian Hotels Association
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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HOSPITALITY VENUE TAX TO FUND HEALTH LOBBY

The Australian Hotels Association (WA) has slammed a recommendation of the *Liquor Control Act* review that proposes a Hospitality Venue Tax (HVT) paid by patrons to fund health and anti-alcohol lobby groups.

Australian Hotels Association CEO, Bradley Woods, said today “the recommendation for the HVT aims to rip money away from, in many cases family owned hospitality businesses, and put it straight into the pocket of the already tax payer funded fat cat public health lobby.

“The policy recommendation labels hotel, tavern and special facility licenses as high risk venues, most of which are clearly not, and proposes a new HVT charged per square metre.

“High risk venues should only be those with a continuous record of breaches of the law.

“The review effectively ignores the hard-won gains of industry in reducing alcohol related violence and minimising harm caused by alcohol.

“Singing the song of the public health lobby and WA Police by further regulating licensed premises is not the solution and shows a lack of creativity in responding to a broader social problem.

“This is an unfair tax on well-run, professional venues and historic country pubs,” Mr Woods concluded.

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