



Australian Hotels Association
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

38 Parliament Place West Perth WA 6005
P O Box 660 West Perth Western Australia 6872
T: 08 9321 7701 F: 08 9321 7730 W: www.ahawa.asn.au

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HOSPITALITY SUPPORTS RED TAPE REDUCTION REPORT

The Australian Hotels Association (WA) has called on the State Government to fast-track and support recommendations made by the Red Tape Reduction Group relating to the State's liquor licensing bureaucracy.

AHA(WA) CEO, Bradley Woods, said the Red Tape Report released today had identified key administrative and policy failings that have cost the hospitality sector almost \$8 million dollars a year.

"The industry has for years been calling on the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor to reduce the regulatory burden on the industry and streamline the licensing process, however our calls have fallen on deaf ears, costing the industry nearly \$40 million over the past five years alone," Mr Woods said.

"The industry applauds the Treasurer for initiating the review and the Taskforce for the recommendations made. In particular recommendations that stop inefficiency and bureaucracy growing at the expense of the WA community, are overdue."

Mr Woods said key recommendations focussing on delivering transparency and accountability into the liquor licensing bureaucracy would encourage new levels of investment and confidence to the hospitality industry providing a stimulus for better hospitality services throughout the State.

Mr Woods pointed to a recent increase in licence fees in January as a perfect illustration of how the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor has failed the industry, with a massive increase in fees without any consultation with the industry.

**For further information please contact
Doug White, AHA Manager Media and Public Affairs 0458 301 139 or 9321 7701**