



Queensland

Gaming Machine and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2013

Explanatory Notes for SL 2013 No. 120

made under the

Gaming Machine Act 1991

Liquor Act 1992

General outline

Short title

Gaming Machine and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2013.

Authorising law

- Sections 2 and 295 to 297 of the *Gaming Machine Act 1991* (Gaming Machine Act).
- Sections 337C(2)(b)(ii) and 337G(3)(b)(ii) of the *Gaming Machine Act 1991*, as omitted by section 93 of the *Liquor and Gaming (Red Tape Reduction) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2013* (Red Tape Reduction Act).
- Section 4 of the *Liquor Act 1992* as amended by section 121 of the Red Tape Reduction Act.
- Sections 142B and 142F of the *Liquor Act 1992*, as amended by section 146 of the Red Tape Reduction Act.

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The policy objectives of this amendment regulation are to-

- amend the *Gaming Machine Regulation 2002* (Gaming Machine Regulation) to prescribe an approved training course for the responsible service of gambling and to prescribe the procedures for conducting money clearances in relation to ticket-in ticket-out systems; and
- amend the *Liquor Regulation 2002* (Liquor Regulation) to prescribe an approved training course for the responsible service of liquor.

Ticket-in ticket-out

The Red Tape Reduction Act contains amendments which provide for the introduction of ticket-in ticket-out (TITO) technology for gaming machines in casinos, hotels and clubs.

TITO allows for a cashless method to collect from and insert credit into gaming machines using tickets. In a TITO system, players who collect credits from a gaming machine are presented with a ticket rather than cash. The ticket can be re-inserted into gaming machines with TITO capabilities or redeemed for cash.

TITO will provide operational efficiencies for casinos, clubs and hotels by removing the need for gaming machine hopper fills, cash clearances and hand-pays, and will reduce the number of physical money counts.

The TITO amendments in the Bill allow for money clearances to be conducted in relation to TITO systems, in the same way they have been conducted on centralised credit systems for some time. Under the Gaming Machine Act, the processes for conducting a money clearance are prescribed under the Gaming Machine Regulation.

New prescriptions for conducting money clearances in relation to TITO systems need to be inserted in the Gaming Machine Regulation. This includes the functions to be required in conducting a money clearance on a TITO system and the amounts to be deducted.

Responsible Service of Gambling and Responsible Service of Alcohol

The Red Tape Reduction Act will make minor amendments to the Liquor Act and the Gaming Machine Act in relation to the mandatory training framework for Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) and Responsible Service of Gambling (RSG), which is currently administered by the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation (OLGR). The amendments remove or

modify references to the approved training course and trainer approvals for the approved training course, as following the creation in 2012 of a national vocational and education (VET) regulator to regulate registered training organisations, OLGR will lose the ability to regulate the RSA and RSG trainers and courses.

The current OLGR approved courses in RSA and RSG each include the nationally approved training modules/competencies, along with Queensland-specific components. To address the implications of the national VET framework, the Red Tape Reduction Act specifies the completion of the national training modules/competencies as the required occupational competencies for RSG and RSA prescribed under a regulation. This enables ease of amendment for any future changes to the description of these courses under the educational framework.

Consequential regulation amendments now need to be made to the Liquor Regulation and Gaming Machine Regulation to prescribe the nationally accredited responsible service of alcohol and approved responsible service of gambling 'courses'.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objectives are achieved by -

- Amending section 37 of the Gaming Machine Regulation to provide that a record is made in the gaming machine performance record of the 'total monetary value of ticket in; and total money value of ticket out';
- Amending section 38 of the Gaming Machine Regulation to provide that a record is made of the amounts of 'total monetary value of ticket in; and total monetary value of ticket out' displayed on the electronic RAM meters for a TITO system;
- Amending section 40 of the Gaming Machine Regulation to clarify that the money clearance relates to a centralised credit system;
- Inserting a new section 40A in the Gaming Regulation to prescribe the amount to be deducted when conducting a money clearance of a TITO system;
- Insertion of a new section 57A in the Gaming Machine Regulation to prescribe an 'approved responsible service of gambling course'.

- Insertion of a new section 38 in the Liquor Regulation to prescribe an 'approved training course'.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The subordinate legislation is consistent with the objectives of the Gaming Machine Act and Liquor Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The subordinate legislation is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

TITO will provide operational efficiencies for casinos, hotels and clubs by removing the need for gaming machine hopper fills, cash clearances and hand-pays, and will reduce the number of physical money counts. This will increase the convenience to the customer and venue as a greater number of payouts do not have to be made manually by a gaming room attendee. It will be up to venues to determine if they want to use TITO technology or not.

The introduction of TITO is in line with the Government's commitment to support the development of a vibrant entertainment and tourism industry and reduce red tape in relation to liquor and gaming legislation.

The VET amendments will result in the acceptance of the nationally accredited Statement of Attainment for RSA and RSG as the competency standard for workers. The amendments will mean that trainers approved under the national VET system will no longer need to seek approval and pay an additional fee to deliver RSA and RSG training in Queensland. This results in time and cost savings for trainers.

The amendments will also reduce the administrative burden on OLGR to process these trainer approvals and monitor trainer activity. This will allow OLGR to focus its resources on its core business of regulation of liquor and gaming operations rather than the regulating trainers.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The subordinate legislation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

The Office of Business Practice Regulation (OBPR) was consulted regarding the exemption from the Regulatory Impact System (RIS).

OBPR has advised that the proposals are excluded from the RIS system as they make consequential amendments.

ENDNOTES

- 1 Laid before the Legislative Assembly on . . .
- 2 The administering agency is the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

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