



Hon Andrew Fraser MP
Member for Mount Coot-tha



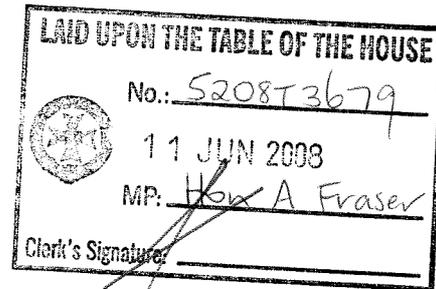
**Queensland
Government**

Treasurer of Queensland

QTO-00271

- 5 JUN 2008

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000



Dear Neil,

I refer to your letter of 11 October 2007, reference 891-07, to the Honourable Desley Boyle MP, Minister for Tourism, Regional Development and Industry, regarding Petition No. 891-07 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly. The principal petitioner is Mr Wayne Window of 9/360 Simpsons Road, Bardon, who is seeking an amendment to the *Liquor Act 1992* to allow the sale of alcohol in Queensland supermarkets and convenience stores.

As liquor licensing matters now fall within my portfolio responsibilities, a copy of your letter has been forwarded to me for direct response. It should also be noted that I authorised this petition in my capacity as the Member for Mount Coot-tha as the principal petitioner is a member of my electorate.

In February 2000, Cabinet endorsed a recommendation of an independent National Competition Policy review of the *Liquor Act* that the status quo which restricts the sale of takeaway liquor to the general public to the holders of a General or Special Facility licence be maintained.

The report of the review committee concluded that Queenslanders are not disadvantaged by the current system of takeaway liquor distribution and found that allowing supermarkets and convenience stores to sell takeaway liquor in Queensland would result in a significant loss of employment, particularly in regional and rural areas of the State.

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The Government is not proposing to amend the Liquor Act to allow the sale of alcohol in Queensland supermarkets and convenience stores at this time, and has recently released its policy position in relation to the Liquor Reform in Queensland. It is proposed that harm minimisation become a major objective of the Liquor Act, supporting the Government's position preventing the sale of liquor in supermarkets and convenience stores.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Fraser', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

ANDREW FRASER