



MEDIA RELEASE  
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## **GTA Welcomes Shelving of Bills**

The Gaming Technologies Association (GTA) welcomed the Inquiry Report of the Senate Community Affairs Committee tabled in Parliament today, which recommended that consideration of recent Bills introduced by Senator Fielding not be passed at this time.

GTA's Chief Executive, Ross Ferrar, thanked the Committee for its comprehensive and thoughtful analysis of submissions and related information provided during the public hearing and consultation process.

He said "Gaming machines are designed to entertain, are subject to government approval and are stringently controlled. The Bills made gigantic assumptions based on information which is either very old, or very wrong.

"If passed, these Bills would have resulted in an immediate negative impact on the people whose livelihoods rely on gaming machines in clubs and hotels and on the Australian economy", he added.

Mr Ferrar cited initial findings from studies currently being conducted by the Centre for International Economics, which estimate that a ban on gaming machines in clubs and pubs would cost 74,000 jobs and the economy would be 0.6 per cent, or \$6.6 billion, smaller.

"We appreciate the tireless efforts of Committee members in delivering an objective, independent Inquiry Report to Parliament and we look forward to providing dependable and substantiated input to the Productivity Commission, which starts its gaming inquiry on November 24", he concluded.

**For further information, call:**

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