



---

## MEDIA RELEASE

---

**Date: 29 May 2013**

**For Immediate Release**

### **Changes reduce red tape for community events**

Local community groups will benefit from the Newman Government's changes to liquor and gaming laws which will make it easier to hold fundraising and community events.

Member for Hinchinbrook, Andrew Cripps, said the new laws passed by the Queensland Parliament last week would allow groups to hold events without the need to obtain liquor permits.

More than 20 amendments have been made that will reduce liquor and gaming red tape under the *Liquor and Gaming (Red Tape Reduction) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013*.

From 1 July this year, community groups such as P&Cs and Rotary Clubs will be able to serve drinks without needing a Community Liquor Permit.

Mr Cripps said the changes would save community groups time and money.

"These common sense amendments mean community groups in the Hinchinbrook Electorate will soon be able to serve drinks responsibly, without the hassle of filling out huge forms and paying fees," Mr Cripps said.

"Many of the previous regulations and requirements were unnecessary and only created extra work for local groups planning fundraising and community events.

"In 2011-2012, the State Government issued around 6,500 community liquor permits, which amounted to a mountain of paperwork for community groups. Now, that burden has been lifted."

The amendments also:

- Scrap expensive risk-assessed management plans and community impact statements for low risk venues that apply for liquor licences, as long as they meet certain criteria
- Bring regulations affecting nursing homes and hospitals into line with retirement villages by allowing the sale of small amounts of alcohol to patients and visitors without requiring a licence
- Streamline the licence application process for low risk venues such as restaurants and cafes

Mr Cripps said the new laws were part of the Newman Government's commitment to reducing red tape by 20 per cent.

"This is about the government getting out of the way and letting communities enjoy themselves responsibly," he said.

"I know residents of the Hinchinbrook Electorate will do the right thing and if they don't, laws are in place to ensure that the privileges provided by this exemption are removed.

"These news laws will take the hassle out of what should be fun local events."

For more information on this, visit [www.olgr.qld.gov.au/aboutUs/ourLawsAndPolicies/legislation/new-legis-affecting-liquor-gaming.shtml](http://www.olgr.qld.gov.au/aboutUs/ourLawsAndPolicies/legislation/new-legis-affecting-liquor-gaming.shtml)

[ENDS]