

# **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

## **GAMING MACHINE ACT 1987**

### **INSTRUMENT NO. 179 1998**

#### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The *Gaming Machine Act 1987* (the Act) provides for the taxing of gross revenue from gaming machines and the necessary administrative support and inspection powers for the regulation and control of gaming machine operations in the ACT.

The Act was amended in December 1997 to introduce requirements for gaming machine licensees to display warning notices in respect of possible problems associated with excessive gambling. These requirement provisions came into effect in January 1998.

Subsection 51B(1) provides that a licensee shall ensure that a warning notice is displayed in a prominent position on each gaming machine installed on licensed premises and at or near the entrance to each gaming area within the licensed premises.

Subsection 51B(4) of the Act allows the Minister to determine by instrument the form, minimum dimensions and the text of warning notices. Such notices will contain information about the risks associated with gambling, and counselling or other support services available in relation to addictive or excessive gambling.

The Schedule to this instrument specifies that the text of the various warning notices to be displayed on a gaming machine shall be one of the following:

- Don't let gambling take control of your life;
- Gambling can become addictive;
- Excessive gambling can ruin lives;
- Excessive gambling can destroy families and friendships;
- Excessive gambling can lead to the loss of your home and loved ones;
- Excessive gambling can affect your health;
- Excessive gambling can lead to mental instability.

• **DO YOU HAVE A GAMBLING PROBLEM?**

A brochure titled "Responsible Gambling" which may assist you to examine your own gambling patterns, is available from this venue. Details of gambling support and counselling services are also contained in this brochure.

The minimum dimensions of each of the first seven texts above shall be 110mm x 25mm with a minimum upper case font size of 20. The minimum dimensions of the last text shall be 115mm x 35mm with a minimum font size of 14.

The Schedule also specifies that the form and text of a warning notice to be displayed at or near the entrance to each gaming area shall be as follows:

<b>DO YOU HAVE A GAMBLING PROBLEM?</b>	
Ask yourself honestly the following questions:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are you in control of your gambling?</li><li>• Can you afford to gamble?</li><li>• Does your gambling affect your family and friends?</li></ul>	
If you have a problem, you will benefit from discussing your situation with a counsellor from one of the following support services:	
<b>GAMBLING AND FINANCIAL COUNSELLING COUNSELLING</b>	<b>GAMBLING CRISIS</b>
PHONE: 62470655 (Business Hours)	PHONE: 62963411 (24 Hour Service)
131114 (After Hours)	
You should also see the management of this venue about the Gambling Self-Exclusion program.	

This notice shall be at least 420mm x 295mm (A3) with a minimum font size of 30.

Circulated by authority of the Chief Minister and Treasurer  
Kate Carnell MLA