
1990

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

GAMING MACHINE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of the Deputy Chief Minister
Mr Bernard Collaery MLA

GAMING MACHINE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990

The Gaming Machine Act 1987 (the Principal Act) provides for the licensing of gaming machine operators and regulates the operation of gaming machines.

The Gaming Machine (Amendment) Bill 1990 (the Bill) amends the Principal Act to:

- increase the maximum denomination of coins gaming machines in club premises may accept lawfully from 20c to \$2.00;
- correct a grammatical error contained in a previous amendment to the Principal Act;
- increase from 3 to 10 the maximum number of class B gaming machines (in general terms, machines other than poker machines) which can be approved for installation in hotels which have at least 12 accommodation rooms; and
- replace with a new scale the current graduated scale of fees payable by clubs on the monthly gross revenue received from gaming machines.

The Bill is a Budget measure.

The new scale of fees payable by clubs on monthly gross revenue derived from gaming machines is expected to increase revenue by \$1.8M per year. The increase in the number of class B machines which can be approved for installation in eligible General licensed premises is expected to increase revenue by \$50,000 per year. The revenue impact of increasing the maximum coin denomination of gaming machines to \$2.00 is difficult to estimate but is not expected to be substantial. There are no expenditure implications associated with any of the amendments.

Details of the Bill are included in the attachment.

ATTACHMENT

Gaming Machine (Amendment) Bill 1990

Short title

Clause 1 states that the Bill, when enacted, may be cited as the Gaming Machine (Amendment) Act 1990.

Commencement

Clause 2 deals with the commencement of the Act.

Subclause 2(1) states that sections 1, 2 and 3 commence on the day on which the Act is notified in the Gazette.

Subclause 2(2) states that the remaining provisions commence on 1 October 1990.

Principal Act

Clause 3 states that the term "Principal Act" means the Gaming Machine Act 1987.

Interpretation

Clause 4 amends the definitions of "multicoin machine" and "singlecoin machine" in section 4 of the Principal Act by increasing the maximum denomination of coin which may be inserted in gaming machines from 20c to \$2.00.

Inspectors

Clause 5 corrects a grammatical error in subsection 7(3) of the Principal Act.

Conditions for issue of licences - gaming machines

Clause 6 amends the conditions for the issue of a gaming machine licence for certain categories of applicant.

Subclause 6(a) increases the number of class B machines in respect of which a gaming machine licence may be issued to a General licensee with 12 or more accommodation rooms from 3 to 10.

Subparagraph 18(2)(a)(iv) of the Principal Act currently limits the number of gaming machines which may be approved in premises referred to in subclause 6(a) above, to twice the number of bar-rooms on the premises. Subclause 6(6) removes this condition and replaces it with a condition limiting the maximum denomination of machines which may be licensed for installation in such premises to 20c.

Subclauses 6(c) and (d) insert in paragraph 18(2)(b) of the Principal Act a condition on the issue of a General liquor licence for premises which have less than 12 accommodation rooms, to limit the maximum coin denomination of machines to 20c.

Subclauses 6(e) and (f) insert in subsection 18(3) of the Principal Act a condition on the issue of an "On" liquor licence to limit the maximum coin denomination of machines to 20c.

Distribution of income from gaming machines

Subclause 7 implements a new graduated scale of gaming machine fees payable by a club, by amending the definition of "prescribed percentage" in subsection 57(4) of the Principal Act.

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Proposed amendments:

1. Proposed new clause 8:

'Percentage pay-out
8. Subsection 17(2) of the Principal Act is
amended by omitting "90 per cent" and substituting
"95 per cent".'

Lawrence Tidd