

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 - Written Questions from Senator Griff - Question 1

Question reference number: SQ20-000525

Senator: Stirling Griff

Type of Question: Written. Hansard Page/s:

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 31 July 2020

Question:

The Jobkeeper and Jobseeker programs (with the Covid-19 supplement) have provided much needed relief to Australians during the pandemic crisis. Has the government sought and received advice on the effect of reopening poker machine venues and other gambling venues whilst these programs and the supplement are operating? If so will the Government release that advice? If not, why not?

Answer:

As identified in the Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia, the reopening of poker machine venues in a COVIDSafe manner is a matter for respective state and territory governments.

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 - Written Questions from Senator Griff - Question 2

Question reference number: SQ20-000526

Senator: Stirling Griff

Type of Question: Written. Hansard Page/s:

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 31 July 2020

Question:

Over the period of the lockdown, Australians have saved more than \$2b dollars that would have been spent in casinos and/or poker machine venues. Has the Government sought advice on the effect of reopening gambling venues on the economy during the pandemic crisis and recession when Australians are at their most vulnerable including comparing the impact on employment on money spent on gambling versus spending in the rest of the economy? If so will the Government release that advice? If not, why not?

Answer:

Please refer to the response to SQ20-000525.