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24 July 2012

Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Attn: Pauline Cullen (Inquiry Secretary) House of Representatives PO Box 6021 Parliament House ACT 2600

Dear Committee Members

Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Public Hearing – Follow Up Action Items

Further to my appearance on behalf of the Australian Hotels Association (WA) (AHA(WA)) at the Inquiry into Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Public Hearing in Perth on 10 July 2012, please find information below additional information requested during the hearing.

Legal Advice in relation to Serving Alcohol to Pregnant Women

We are not aware of any specific written research or legal advice that has been conducted or sought regarding FASD or the discrimination aspects surrounding the issue of serving alcohol to pregnant women.

It is generally accepted understood and accepted by both the liquor industry and the alcohol health lobby movement that licensees and staff are not able to refuse service to pregnant women without contravening discrimination laws.

Pregnancy is specifically mentioned in anti-discrimination legislation as grounds that persons must not discriminate against and there would need to be separate legal advice in relation to both liquor licensing and anti-discrimination legislation for each state/territory.

Training Materials

The AHA(WA) mentions FASD as one of the potential health issues around the misuse of alcohol in our Responsible Service of Alcohol training and our Management of Licensed Premises Course. The training does not enter into specific medical detail but the issue(s) of serving pregnant women however, does often come up in discussions in the classroom training.

A copy of the section of training that highlights FASD has been attached for your information and consideration.

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Thank you once again for the opportunity to speak at the Inquiry into FASD Public Hearing in Perth.

Yours sincerely

Bradley Woods CEO/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR