

LIQUOR LICENSING LAWS CHANGES, NATIONAL COMPETITION COUNCIL'S REVIEW

1314. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

The minister claimed that the policy changes to Western Australia's liquor licensing laws, which were announced in a media statement on 1 September 2003, were forced on the Government by the National Competition Council's review of the Western Australian legislation.

- (1) Has the Government made inquiries about the exact amount of federal funding that it has claimed may be withheld from the State if these changes are not made?
- (2) If so, what is the amount specifically with regard to Western Australia's liquor licensing laws?
- (3) If not, why not?

Hon Dee Margetts: Your Government signed up to it.

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS replied:

- (1)-(3) I thank the honourable member for the question. He began his question with a preamble. I will not comment on the preamble other than to say that he was not quoting me precisely. With regard to the amount at risk for the liquor licensing issue, the National Competition Council has informed the Government of the amount. I know what the amount is but at this stage I am not in a position to say.

Hon Dee Margetts: It is a confidentiality agreement which Richard Court agreed to. Go back and look at it.