

LIQUOR LAWS SPECIAL EVENTS LEGISLATION — MINISTER'S VIEWS

437. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Racing and Gaming

With reference to the Minister for Racing and Gaming's comment relating to the Liquor Laws Special Events Legislation for the Perth Australia Day Skyworks, I ask:

- (a) does the Minister still stand by the statement that it is okay for people to drink in public if it is a glass of wine;
- (b) is the information misleading and if so, will the Minister apologise; and
- (c) can the Minister clarify his position on drinking in public places?

Mr T.K. WALDRON replied:

- (a) My declaration of the 2009 Australia Day Sky Works event as a designated special event under section 126E of the Liquor Control Act specifically provided police with the discretion to seize and dispose of unopened alcohol in certain circumstances. It is also longstanding policing policy that police may use their discretion in relation to minor offences, with the public interest being the principal determining factor. The context of my comments was to propose a view that police should exercise their discretion to target anti-social behaviour.
- (b) No. This position is consistent with that held by the previous Minister for Racing and Gaming, Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich MLC.
- (c) See response to (a) above.