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MEDIA MONITORING TRANSCRIPT

PROGRAM: ABC MORNINGS - 8.30 AM
DATE: 29 MARCH 2021
TITLE: GAMING POLICY
PRESENTER: LEON COMPTON
SPEAKER: PETER GUTWEIN (Premier)
TYPED BY: SK **CHECKED BY:** HR

COMPTON: Premier, what is the tax rate that the Federal Hotel Group will pay on poker machines in their casinos?

GUTWEIN: Leon, in terms of the gaming legislation, look, unfortunately, that has been delayed, but it will be released for public comment as soon as we can post an election and people will have the opportunity to have their say. But I would make the point, the gaming policy that we took to the election, three years ago, was dealt with at the last election, and all we will be doing -

COMPTON: Premier, what you haven't said yet is what rate the Federal Hotel Group will pay on poker machine revenues in their casinos, that is still unknown, and people might expect that you declare it publicly given that they are such a significant donor to your party. What is the rate that they will pay?

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GUTWEIN: Leon, the point that I have made is that that policy was dealt with at the last election. And we will implement that policy. That's -

COMPTON: But it wasn't. You haven't declared what the rate is that the Federal Hotel Group will have on the election.

GUTWEIN: Look, Leon, you can raise your voice at me, if you like. But, at the end of the day, that policy was settled three years ago. This election isn't about gaming reform. The legislation will be made available, people will be able to have their say on it, and the parliament will consider it later this year. That is where we are with gaming reform.

COMPTON: Premier, what is the tax rate that the Federal Hotel Group will pay on poker machines in their casinos? They are lobbying you heavily for a dramatically reduced rate. Tax reform should be, in many cases, taken to the public for a mandate at an election. What is the rate they will pay?

GUTWEIN: Leon, as I have said, that policy was dealt with at the 2018 election. You might want to cast back three years. But this election isn't about gaming reform.

COMPTON: You haven't said what the rate will be, Premier.

GUTWEIN: That was dealt with. And we will implement our policy that we took to the last election, which we received a mandate for, we will release legislation later this year. People will be able to have their say on that. And the

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parliament, ultimately, will determine those matters when it is brought forward.

COMPTON: Premier, I think people have listened to this and heard you repeatedly refuse to say what rate one of your significant party donors will be charged in a decision that will impact on the state's budget - health, education and so on - potentially by hundreds of millions of dollars over 20 years, and you won't say what that rate will be.

GUTWEIN: Leon, I have made the point very clearly, this election is not about gaming reform. That was dealt with three years ago. Our policy was clear. It is unfortunate if you want to continue playing in the space that we were in three years ago. But this election is not about gaming reform. As I have said, we will release the legislation at the earliest opportunity, post-election, when it is ready, and importantly, people will be able to provide comment on that and then ultimately the parliament will be able to have its say.

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