

Government Response to M. Webb MLC
Non-Gambling Advertising at
State-owned and State-funded venues

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Leader for Government
Business

10.09.2026

Tasmanian
Government

Treasurer

Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal

Leader of the House

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8 SEP 2026

The Hon Tania Rattray MLC
Leader for the Government in the Legislative Council
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Ms Rattray

Notice of Motion – Gambling Advertising at State-owned and State-funded Venues

On 2 December 2025 the Hon Meg Webb MLC moved a Motion in the Legislative Council calling for the prohibition of gambling advertising and sponsorship at State-owned or State-funded venues, and on player's uniforms. Progress on the original Motion was revisited on 18 August 2026.

The following letter represents the Government's response to both Motions. I would appreciate if you could please circulate the response below to Members on behalf of the Government.

Government response to Notice of Motion

As outlined during the debate on 18 August 2026, the Tasmanian Government acknowledges the concerns raised by Ms Webb regarding gambling advertising and sponsorship and recognises that gambling-related harm can have significant impact on individuals, families and communities. The Government remains committed to reducing gambling-related harm through evidence-based harm minimisation measures and consumer protections.

While the Government recognises the intent of the Motion, it does not support a unilateral Tasmanian prohibition on gambling advertising and sponsorship at State-owned or State-funded venues. The Government's position is that gambling harm minimisation is most effectively addressed through nationally coordinated and evidence-based reforms rather than venue-specific measures implemented by a single jurisdiction. Accordingly, the Government has not commenced work on implementing a prohibition of the kind contemplated by the Motion and has no implementation progress to report.

The Government considers that a blanket prohibition may present a range of practical, legal and economic challenges. Existing sponsorship agreements, contractual obligations,

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venue management frameworks, sporting body requirements and the interaction between State and Commonwealth regulatory responsibilities would require careful consideration. Furthermore, restrictions applied only within Tasmania could create inconsistencies across national sporting codes, venues and sponsorship arrangements while having a limited impact on overall exposure to gambling advertising.

Importantly, Tasmania's legislative capacity in this area is limited. While the *Gaming Control Act 1993* (the Act) provides the State with regulatory authority over gambling activities occurring within Tasmania, regulation of online gambling services and most gambling advertising remains primarily a Commonwealth responsibility under national legislation.

Furthermore, while the Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission (the Commission) can take regulatory action against certain licence and permit holders operating in Tasmania, many wagering providers advertising in Tasmania are regulated outside the State. Advertising relating to racing and sports wagering is not captured by the statutory definition of a "game", which means that non-Tasmanian wagering operators may advertise in Tasmania without being subject to the Commission's regulatory oversight.

The *Responsible Gambling Code of Practice* imposes requirements on gambling advertising, including restrictions on advertising content, timing and placement, as well as specific requirements relating to gaming machines, but this is limited to gaming and wagering operators regulated under Tasmanian legislation.

Given these legislative limitations, the Government considers that meaningful reform is best pursued through national action. Tasmania has consistently supported nationally coordinated approaches to gambling reform and harm minimisation, including participation in the National Consumer Protection Framework for Online Wagering and support for initiatives such as the National Self-Exclusion Register, BetStop.

Notably, the Australian Parliament passed the *Interactive Gambling Amendment (Gambling Reform) Bill 2026* on 19 August 2026. These reforms represent a substantial national response to concerns regarding gambling advertising and include:

- prohibiting wagering advertising on television, radio and online content services during live sporting broadcasts;
- prohibiting wagering advertising on radio during school drop-off and pick-up periods;
- limiting television gambling advertisements to a maximum of three advertisements per hour between 6.00am and 8.30pm;
- restricting online wagering advertising unless users are verified as over 18 years of age and provided with the ability to opt out of receiving gambling advertising;
- prohibiting wagering advertising on sporting uniforms and at sporting venues;
- prohibiting licensed wagering service providers from using notable persons to promote gambling products; and

- prohibiting the promotion of odds in wagering advertising.

These reforms will commence from 1 January 2027 and will be monitored and enforced by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), which will also provide guidance to industry to support implementation.

The Government considers that these national reforms provide an appropriate framework for addressing gambling advertising at a national level. Tasmania will continue to monitor their implementation and participate in national reform discussions.

For clarity, this letter constitutes the Government's response to the Legislative Council's motion of 2 December 2025 and to the further request of the Council of 18 August 2026.

Thank you again for raising these matters with the Government and I trust that the above is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric Abetz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Eric Abetz MP
Treasurer