



COMPLAINT LODGED OVER MISLEADING ADVERTISEMENT BY HOTELS AND CLUBS

Independent Senator for South Australia Nick Xenophon has lodged a complaint with the Australian Consumer and Competition Commission and called on the authority to investigate the misleading advertisement by the Australian Hotels Association and Clubs Australia printed in newspapers yesterday.

"The advertisement by the Hotels and Clubs is nothing more than a scare campaign," Nick said.

"The claims are misleading and imply that the proposed gambling reforms are going to impinge on people's rights."

"That's not at all what this is about. These reforms are about trying to address problem gambling and, through a pre-commitment scheme, giving people the option to choose how much they're willing to lose on the pokies," Nick said.

"The Hotels and Clubs campaign says gambling reform is un-Australian but what's really un-Australian is for them to be against helping problem gamblers."

In his letter to the ACCC, Senator Xenophon details the numerous misleading comments in the advertisement and provides statements as to why they are inaccurate.

Senator Xenophon has also launched his own website to counter the Hotels and Clubs campaign – www.itsabigfatlie.com.au – and a Facebook page.

"I have received dozens of emails overnight criticising the Clubs and Hotels campaign," Nick said.

"The Australian community wants gambling reform and they can see through the Hotels and Clubs lies."