



Restaurant
& Catering

MEDIA RELEASE
14 February 2018

LIQUOR LICENSING CHANGES A WELCOME REFORM FOR WA RESTAURANTS

Restaurant & Catering Australia (R&CA) has welcomed the proposed changes to Western Australia's liquor licensing system, as announced today by the State Government.

Under the changes to be introduced to State Parliament next week, licensed restaurants with a capacity of 120 people or less will be able to serve alcohol to patrons without a meal. Under the present system, licensed restaurants are required to apply for a separate permit to be granted this authority.

R&CA, who was consulted as part of the Government's industry consultation process regarding the *Liquor Control Amendment Bill 2018*, originally proposed this change as part of its WA pre-election policy priorities in February last year.

R&CA CEO Juliana Payne said that the Western Australian Government's reforms would significantly reduce the red tape burden associated with liquor licensing for the State's restaurant sector, allowing licensed restaurant operators to run their businesses more effectively.

"We strongly commend the Western Australian Government for implementing a host of sensible, common-sense measures designed to lessen the impact of red tape, which we know is one of the biggest issues facing hospitality operators across the country.

"What these reforms will do is allow restaurants to spend more time focusing on delivering an outstanding dining experience for customers and less time dealing with unnecessary and burdensome administrative requirements," Ms Payne said.

Ms Payne also emphasised the benefits of the Government's reforms for the State's tourism and hospitality sector.

"The tourism and hospitality sector is a key pillar of the Western Australian economy, generating billions of dollars in expenditure and thousands of jobs across the State. It makes perfect sense to be structuring the business regulatory environment in such a way which fosters and encourages this growth.



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“The Government’s liquor licensing measures will ultimately have a significant impact on the State’s economic growth by improving businesses’ productivity and improving the overall dining offering for locals and international and domestic tourists alike.”

For further information on this media release, please contact:

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