

**THE POKIES
PLAY YOU**



Dear Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten,

You have an opportunity to make a difference to the lives of hundreds of thousands of Australians by supporting the following proposals for gambling reform that Senator Nick Xenophon, Andrew Wilkie MP, The Alliance for Gambling Reform and Rev Tim Costello put forward on 14 July 2016:

1. A ban on sports betting advertising during G-rated time periods;
2. A Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform to build on existing knowledge of the problems and solutions; and
3. Legislation that limits poker machine harm to a maximum \$1 bet and maximum loss of \$120 per hour.

These are the first steps towards reducing the devastation caused by gambling harm in Australia. Australians lose \$21 billion through gambling every year, with 500,000 Australians experiencing financial stress, mental illness and relationship breakdown as a direct result. Gambling causes twice as much harm to the health of Australians as diabetes, bipolar disorder and cannabis dependence combined.

These first steps have been supported by the Greens and cross benchers, now they need your support.

The Alliance for Gambling Reform brings together over 60 organisations that are deeply concerned about the damage caused by predatory gambling in our clubs, pubs and sporting events.

We support an evidence-based, public health approach to preventing and minimising harm from gambling, coupled with giving communities a real say on poker machines and gambling in their communities.



Tim Costello and the Alliance for Gambling Reform



These organisations from across Australia are the Alliance for Gambling Reform:

A Just Cause - Anglican Church Southern Queensland - Association of Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres (ANHLC) - Australian Christian Lobby - Australian Drug Foundation - Australian Inter-church Gambling Taskforce - Ballarat Inter-agency Taskforce on Gambling - Banyule City Council - Baptist Union of Victoria - Bass Coast Shire Council - Bendigo Community Health Services - Blow up the Pokies - Borderlands - Brimbank City Council - Brighton Council - Cardinia Shire Council - City of Greater Dandenong - City of Melbourne - City of Monash - City of Port Phillip - City of Whittlesea Council - City of Yarra Council - Common Grace - Communities against Pokies - Darebin Council - Frankston City Council - Gambling Impact Society NSW - Geelong City Council - GetUp! - Hobsons Bay City Council - Hume City Council - Indigo Shire Council - Jesuit Social Services - Knox City Council - Leadwest - Leichhardt Municipal Council - Life in Time - Macedon Ranges Shire Council - Macedonian Community Welfare Association - Manningham City Council - Maribyrnong City Council - Mitchell Shire Council - Moonee Valley City Council - Moreland City Council - Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) - Nillumbik Shire Council - North East Primary Care Partnership - Public Health Association of Australia - Pokies Anonymous - Seed - South Australian Council of Social Services (SACOSS) - The Municipal Association of Victoria - The Salvation Army Australia - The Victoria Local Governance Association (VLGA) - Uniting Church in Australia, NSW & ACT Synod - Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod - Uniting Communities, South Australia - UnitingCare Mental Health - Victoria Inter-church Gambling Taskforce - Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS) - Victorian Community Anti-Gambling Advocacy Group - Whitehorse City Council - Whittlesea Interagency Taskforce on Gambling - Women's Health in the North

