

RAILWAY SUPERMARKET
IGA EVERYDAY
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RE.TOBACCO FREE GENERATION BILL

1.6.2015

This is the first time I have ever felt like I need to write about any thing that is proposed legislation, but I think this is unworkable and unfair

I own and run two IGA stores in Tasmania , in Ulverstone and have recently purchased another one in Devonport.

The way I see this TFG bill working is it will harm businesses like mine who play by the rules. It reads as though I, as I an honest retailer will be hamperd from selling a legal product making a profit and taying my taxes.

As it is only going to be illegal to purchase tobacco and not illegal to smoke then its aim of reducing smoking will be miminal. You only have to mingle with high school kids to see the number who smoke who are under 18 and where do they get them from.

At first it will make no difference to my business until those who cant buy smokes become 18. Afer this can you tell the difference between a 27 and 28 year old. We already have fines hanging over our head if we sell to under age and an ever moving age will make it impossible to do.

As I have seen first hand working in my stores the abuse we get regarding peoples age and whether they can buy smokes, this will make it worse.

The numbers of ways that the people who this bill would effect will still be able to buy smoke is numerous, but not from me. From online source, from the mainland (where they wouldnt be covered by the new rules), or from the ever increases numbers of stolen smokes from honest retailers like me. As we are a state trying to get tourists to come here, going alone on this would harm our chances on getting them over to Tasmania.

In my stores over 30% of my business is cigarettes and provides an income to enable me to employ over 30 staff . If tobacco was banned in the whole of australia then people would have more money to spend on other items, but this way of trying to control it only in Tasmania would only move people away from my stores and to other ways of puchasing them.

I ask you NOT to vote to pass this bill.

Thank You

Paul Raistrick
Director
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