

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **ALCOHOL SECONDARY SUPPLY LEGISLATION WELCOMED**

The WA Government's decision to introduce secondary supply laws to help prevent alcohol supply to under 18s is a very welcome development, which will empower parents and send out important signals to young people and the community.

Following the Government's announcement that it will introduce secondary supply legislation as part of its response to the recommendations of the Independent Committee which reviewed WA's Liquor Control Act, Professor Mike Daube, Director of the McCusker Centre for Action on Alcohol and Youth said:

"We are delighted with the Government's commitment to introduce secondary supply laws in WA. These laws play an important role in supporting parents to delay young people's use of alcohol. We would like to see more action, as recommended by the Government's own Independent Review Committee, but it is important to acknowledge this as a very significant and welcome development."

"There is enormous community support for this action. 94% of WA adults are concerned about alcohol and young people, and there is overwhelming support for secondary supply laws."

"The McCusker Centre has been calling for secondary supply laws for some years, along with other groups and outstanding community campaigner Samantha Menezes. It is good news that parents are being supported, and that WA will catch up with the other five Australian states and territories which have this legislation."

"This complements the Government's current education programs, and growing awareness of the harms of alcohol to young people – both immediate, and long term, not least to the developing brain."

"The Government's Independent Review Committee, chaired by Mr John Atkins, made 141 recommendations in a comprehensive report released in January this year."

"We hope that the Government will also accept the advice of its own independent Review Committee in other important areas, including controlled purchase operations, curbing alcohol promotions that impact on children, restricting liquor licences near schools, and making it easier for community members to be represented in liquor licensing processes."

"Alcohol policy needs a comprehensive, long-term approach. We will continue to press for further action so that the community, and especially young people, are protected from the harms of alcohol, but we welcome Minister Waldron's announcement on secondary supply laws as an important advance."

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