



FAMILY FIRST



Steve Fielding Family First Senator for Victoria

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STATE GOVERNMENTS OUT OF TOUCH WITH COMMUNITY CONCERNS ABOUT THE POKIES PLAGUE

Brumby shows why Federal intervention on Pokies is urgently needed as the States are dangerously addicted to pokies

The revelation that the Victorian State Government is going ahead with multi billion-dollar 20 year pokie licences is out of step with the bulk of Victorians said Family First Leader Steve Fielding today.

“Most Victorians want them out of their pubs and clubs because of the overwhelming evidence of harm that these pokies are causing to families,” Senator Fielding said.

“Yet here we have the state government actively looking at ways it can continue to make billions of dollars from pokies by considering giving licences to international gambling giants.

“By renewing pokie licences without having a plan to get pokies out of our pubs and clubs shows how out of touch with the Victorian people the state government is.”

A survey in January revealed that Victorians overwhelmingly believed that we have too many poker machines and local communities should be given the power to shut them down.

“Governments are supposed to govern on behalf of the people, not fly in the face of their wishes and blatantly ignore their needs and concerns,” Senator Fielding said.

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