



New South Wales

Liquor Amendment (Airports) Bill 2025

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Liquor Act 2007* (*the Act*) to make provision for the regulation of liquor at airports in New South Wales and certain related places.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name, also called the short title, of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Liquor Act 2007 No 90

Schedule 1[1] amends the definition of *airport* to mean a public airport.

Schedule 1[3] inserts proposed Part 7A into the Act comprising proposed sections 130A–130E.

Schedule 1[2] makes a consequential amendment.

Proposed section 130A defines *food court* and *passenger terminal*.

Proposed section 130B provides that licensed premises in passenger terminals at an airport—

- (a) have trading hours the same as the operating hours of the airport unless reduced hours are prescribed by the regulations or approved by the Secretary of the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport (the *Secretary*), and
- (b) have no restricted trading days, and
- (c) are not subject to a 6-hour closure period each day, and

- (d) are not required to be open to the general public.

For licensed premises in the passenger terminal authorised to sell liquor for consumption on the licensed premises, the licence is also taken to authorise the sale of liquor for consumption in a food court in the passenger terminal or a seating area associated with the licensed premises.

The food court or seating area must be treated as a part of the licensed premises for liquor sold or supplied under the licence in relation to offences—

- (a) preventing the excessive consumption of alcohol, or
- (b) relating to the sale or supply of liquor to minors.

The proposed section also makes it an offence for a licensee to sell liquor for consumption in a food court or seating area without displaying a notice on the licensed premises that specifies where the liquor may be consumed.

Proposed section 130C applies to licensed premises in a passenger terminal at an airport that have an area—

- (a) related to a packaged liquor licence, or
- (b) dedicated to the sale of liquor by retail in sealed containers for consumption away from the licensed premises.

The following requirements of the Act do not apply to the licensed premises—

- (a) the requirement that the area be separated from other parts of the licensed premises,
- (b) requirements that prevent a minor entering or remaining in the area if the minor is not in the company of a responsible adult.

Proposed section 130D enables the Secretary to modify the application of proposed Part 7A to licensed premises in response to a contravention of the Act or the regulations under the Act.

The modification by the Secretary may—

- (a) reduce the trading hours for the licensed premises, or
- (b) remove or reduce exemptions relating to minors being permitted to enter the licensed premises, or
- (c) remove or reduce the ability to sell liquor for consumption in a food court or seating area.

The proposed section makes it a condition of a licence that the licensee comply with proposed Part 7A as modified by the Secretary.

Proposed section 130E—

- (a) defines *Western Sydney Airport*, and
- (b) provides that for certain licensed premises surrounding Western Sydney Airport, the Secretary may decide the following—
 - (i) the trading hours for the licensed premises,
 - (ii) whether restricted trading days apply to the licensed premises,
 - (iii) whether a 6-hour closure period each day applies to the licensed premises, and
- (c) requires the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority to give effect to a decision of the Secretary.