

MEDIA RELEASE

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Government Acts to save lives and reduce harms

Drug ARM Australasia congratulates the Palaszczuk Government for moving decisively to introduce this welcomed piece of legislation that will largely reduce the overall harms associated with alcohol in this State. In 2013-2014 alcohol-related assaults made up 30% of all assaults in that year while 40% of family violence assaults were alcohol-related*.

Dr Dennis Young the Executive Director of Drug ARM said, “The Queensland Government has shown commitment to reducing harm from alcohol in introducing this legislative reform that was central to their election platform. This legislation is soundly based upon valid published research both in Australia and internationally”.

“From our agency’s perspective alcohol is the number one reason people present to Drug ARM seeking assistance and support. This legislation has the potential to greatly reduce the harms associated with alcohol and therefore reduce the number of people presenting to hospitals emergency departments as well as agencies such as Drug ARM for assistance” Dr Young said.

Drug ARM calls upon the independent members of the Queensland Parliament to support this much needed legislation that will produce positive health and criminal justice outcomes in every electorate across Queensland.

*Source

(a) *Institute of Social Science Research, University of Queensland*

(b) *Queensland Hospital Admitted Patient Data Collection, Department of Health, Queensland*

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