SUBMISSION FOR THE CONSULTATION REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

INVESTIGATION INTO PROPOSED CHRISTMAS EVE PART-DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY 2019

30/08/19

Introduction

The Burrum Heads Hotel Motel (open 7 days lunch & dinner) along with the Bowls Club (open 3-4 days for meals, but usually closed public holidays) are the only 2 licenced establishments in town to dine. Burrum Heads is a small seaside community that relies on tourists visiting at Christmas time. We employ approximately 18 local workers.

The introduction of a part-day public holiday on Christmas Eve will have the following impacts on my business:

Additional wages costs
Public holiday penalty rates are ridiculous! I do value my employees but with all the extra costs added to the ones we already have, how’s a small business supposed to survive?! Employees get paid double but you can’t charge the customers double because you’ll end up with no customers!

Close the business earlier and reduced hours for employees
Our employees will lose hours as we will do most of the work ourselves and close early.

Impact on local Community
Our customers will have to pay a surcharge and most people generally complain about that or they leave and we lose business.

Why do government departments and councils make it so hard for small business to survive? The more public holidays, the less they have to work but they still get paid!!

Yours sincerely,

Steve & Jodi Hohn
Owner/Managers
Burrum Heads Hotel Motel