**From:** Philip Johnston [mailto:scribepj@bigpond.com]
**Sent:** Monday, 16 June 2025 12:19 PM
**To:** 'IPART'
**Subject:** **Next task is to learn whether NSW State Liberal Coalition or NSW Labor had the Gaming Machines Act 2001 amended to repeal vital Clause 12 and 13 that limited number of poker machines at any NSW Club**

Thank you for you below email sent Wed, 11 June 2025 1:17pm

Apologies for taking 4 business days to respond.

I do appreciate the efforts in your 2nd paragraph re your earlier response to me sent 19 Nov 2024.

When I read a PDF I save it as a Word file and colour background pertinent info.  *My way of retaining some evidence of my attempt to absorb info therein.*

Your below email attached a PDF of my 1st Attachment **Gambling: Promoting a Culture of Responsibility** – a Word copy (202 pages).

202 pages took me a while to review, as did 2nd Attachment “**INDEPENDENT PANEL FOR GAMBLING REFORM – CLUBS NSW CONDENSED RESPONSE TO PANEL REPORT**”

As noted in below emails, I am hopeful of assisting Wesley Mission materially reducing the reckless number of Electronic Gaming Machines (Poker Machines) in NSW, particularly in the [**Top 20 NSW Electronic Gaming Machine Clubs**](https://clubtic.com.au/top-20-egm-clubs-in-nsw-named/). (3rd Attachment)

These clubs and hotels have expended costs in sourcing and administering Poker Machines that are generally very lucrative in Western Sydney and NSW and will not forego that income unless legally obligated to.

The ability for [**Wesley Mission**](https://www.wesleymission.org.au/about-us/media-releases/government-asleep-at-the-wheel-on-poker-machine-harm) to reduce poker machine numbers in NSW seems to be restricted to any breaches in the use of Poker Machines by NSW Clubs and Hotels, pursuant to the [**Gaming Machines Bill 2001 - NSW**](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/bills/Pages/bill-details.aspx?pk=1815#:~:text=An%20Act%20to%20provide%20for%20the%20regulation%2C%20control,machines%20and%20other%20matters%3B%20and%20for%20other%20purposes.) that passed thru the NSW Legislative Council on 6 Dec 2001.

4th Attachment chronicles Clause 12 and Clause 13 of the original [**Gaming Machines Bill 2001 - NSW**](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/bills/Pages/bill-details.aspx?pk=1815#:~:text=An%20Act%20to%20provide%20for%20the%20regulation%2C%20control,machines%20and%20other%20matters%3B%20and%20for%20other%20purposes.) that *prima facie* limits the number of poker machines in an NSW Club to 450.  Clubs that exceed 450 EGMs had 5 years to reduce by 10% or to 450 machines..

3rd Attachment lists 12 NSW clubs that exceeded that 450 machines limit in June 2021.

5th Attachment is a more recent [**Gaming Machines Act  2001 – No 127 - NSW**](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/bills/Pages/bill-details.aspx?pk=1815#:~:text=An%20Act%20to%20provide%20for%20the%20regulation%2C%20control,machines%20and%20other%20matters%3B%20and%20for%20other%20purposes.).  Page 7 of the below extract evidences that pertinent Clauses 12 and 13 (re limiting machines to 450) were repealed/annulled/cancelled.

**Part 2 Limitations on gaming machine numbers**

**10**   **Overall State cap on gaming machine entitlements**

(1)  The maximum number of gaming machine entitlements is set at 99,000 or such lower number as may be prescribed by the regulations (***the overall State cap***).

(2)  The Authority is to review the overall State cap at least once every 5 years following the commencement of this section (as substituted by the [***Gaming Machines Amendment Act 2008***](https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/repealed/current/act-2008-099)).

**11**   **Limit on number of gaming machines in hotels**

The maximum number of approved gaming machines that the Authority may authorise under Part 5 to be kept in any one hotel is 30.

**12, 13**   **(Repealed)**

My next task is to learn whether NSW State Liberal Coalition or NSW Labor had the Gaming Machines Act 2001 amended (*post* Dec 2001) **to repeal vital Clause 12 and 13 that limited the number of poker machines at any NSW Club**.

I believe necessary for Wesley Mission to engage a ‘legislation lawyer’; to review the –

* [**NSW Gaming Machines Act 2001 - as at 13 January 2023**](https://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/gma2001130/)**;** and
* also consider earlier amendments to this Act;

to hopefully identify some earlier breaches of obligations, pursuant to this 2001 Act, by some larger NSW Clubs in Western Sydney and NSW generally.

These clubs and hotels have expended costs in sourcing and administering *poker machines* and will not forego future revenues, unless they are legally obligated to.

NB:   I would be prepared to work with such a ‘legislation lawyer’ at no fee as I receive a largish fortnightly Defined Benefits superannuation payment.  I worked at CBA for 37 years and I received a reasonable salary whilst working in Infrastructure Finance for the final 18 years to early 2007.

Thanks again to Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for the below three email responses:

* Wednesday, 11 June 2025 1:17 PM
* Tuesday, 19 November 2024 4:37 PM
* Monday, 17 June 2024 8:50 AM

**Phil Johnston aka**[***Bank Teller***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/ChoresnCrew/Scribe/Scribe.htm)
0434 715.861

**From:** IPART [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
**Sent:** Wednesday, 11 June 2025 1:17 PM
**To:** scribepj@bigpond.com
**Subject:** **FW: I seek data on increase in annual number of poker machines in NSW ideally from around 1975 up to 2002. Or at least from 1985. My research is for The Wesley Mission**

Hi Phil,

Thank you for your below email received on 3 June 2025 checking in on our response to your June 2024 enquiry seeking poker machine data from IPART.

We did also receive a November 2024 email from you with the same request - did you receive our response sent to you on 19 November 2024? I have attached this response below and have highlighted this date in yellow for your reference. I have also re-attached to this email the IPART June 2004 report which we provided in our 19 November 2024 reply.

Kind Regards,
IPART



**Direct** (02) 9019 1908|

PO Box K35, Haymarket Post Shop, NSW 1240

**From:** Philip Johnston scribepj@bigpond.com
**Sent:** Tuesday, 3 June 2025 12:48 PM
**To:** IPART ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au
**Subject:** FW: Enquiry RE: For action - 00769126 - Data on the increase in the number of poker machines in each Australian state and territory - ideally from the mid-1970s or 1980s. At a minimum data for NSW pre 2000

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|  | You don't often get email from scribepj@bigpond.com. [Learn why this is important](https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification)  |  |

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I refer to my below email sent to ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au  almost a year ago.

I have undertaken some work with the Wesley Mission re Gambling Reform, focused on demonstrably reducing the number of poker machines in NSW, especially in Sydney’s western suburbs. I welcome a response to my below email

Please provide data on the increase in the number of poker machines in NSW each year at least from 1990 to 2001-02, but preferably from the mid-1970s to 2001-02.

1st Attachment is data that I have sourced on the change in number of poker machines since 2001-02 for Australia’s six states and two territories.

**Phil Johnston aka**[***Bank Teller***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/ChoresnCrew/Scribe/Scribe.htm)
0434 715.861

**From:** Philip Johnston [mailto:scribepj@bigpond.com]
**Sent:** Friday, 28 June 2024 12:55 PM
**To:** 'ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au'
**Subject:** FW: Enquiry RE: For action - 00769126 - Data on the increase in the number of poker machines in each Australian state and territory - ideally from the 1970s or 1980s. At a minimum data for NSW pre 2000

I am undertaking some research for the Wesley Mission to hopefully reduce poker machines, particularly in NSW

1st Attachment is data that I have sourced on the change in number of poker machines since 2001-02 for Australia’s six states and two territories.

2nd Attachment is  Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority Annual Report 2021-22 (58 pgs).

3rd Attachment is REPORT TO GOVERNMENT: INQUIRY INTO GAMING IN NSW - INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL OF NEW – Nov 1998

Below are pertinent extracts from 3rd Attachment re the quantity of gaming machines and losses incurred by vulnerable poker machine addicts:

Gaming machines are the favoured mode of gaming accounting for 79.8% of net losses.

          Gaming machines (including those at the casino) account for almost 80% of the funds lost in
 gaming by NSW adults. The 91,943 gaming machines in hotels and clubs raised

$672m in duty ($7,309 per machine). By contrast, the 27,100 gaming machines in Victorian pubs and clubs raised $551.7m in duty or ($20,360 per machine).20

Q1
Please provide data on the number of poker machines in NSW each year for at least from 1990 to 2001-02, but preferably from the mid-1970s.

**Phil Johnston aka**[***Bank Teller***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/ChoresnCrew/Scribe/Scribe.htm)
0434 715.861

**From:** Jason Owston [mailto:jason.owston@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au]
**Sent:** Monday, 17 June 2024 8:50 AM
**To:** scribepj@bigpond.com
**Subject:** Enquiry RE: For action - 00769126 - Data on the increase in the number of poker machines in each Australian state and territory - ideally from the 1970s

Dear Philip

Thank you for your email.

We note you are requesting information dating back to the 1970s from multiple jurisdictions.

We recommend you refer to -

* Amalgamated historical data here <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/society/gambling/australian-gambling-statistics>
* Our L&G annual reports <https://www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/about-us/annual-reports>

Other states provide gaming data as per -

* <https://www.cbs.sa.gov.au/sections/LGL/gaming-statistics>
* [http://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au/home/resources/data+and+research/data/](http://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au/home/resources/data%2Band%2Bresearch/data/)
* <https://secure.olgr.qld.gov.au/dcm/Gaming/StatsByType/5fb1f955b45e38e31789286a1790398d>

Kind Regards,

**Jason Owston**

**Licensing Support Officer**

**Liquor and Gaming NSW | Hospitality and Racing | Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade & Gaming Authority**

**E** gaming.applications@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au



**Working Hours** Monday to Friday. Please note I work flexibly, if you receive an email outside working hours – there is no need to respond until you return to work.

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay respects to Elders past and present. I also acknowledge all the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff working with NSW Government at this time.

--------------- Forwarded Message ---------------
**From:** Philip Johnston [scribepj@bigpond.com]
**Sent:** 1/6/2024, 1:18 pm
**To:** contact.us@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au
**Subject:** Data on the increase in the number of poker machines in each Australian state and territory - ideally from the 1970s

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.]

I sourced the above email address at [**https://www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/contact-us**](https://www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/contact-us)

I am undertaking some research for the Wesley Mission to hopefully reduce poker machines, particularly in NSW.

I seek to create a worksheet that chronicles the increase in the number of poker machines in each Australian state and territory - ideally from the 1970s.

Albeit I understand that there has been a reduction in poker machines in 5 states and 2 territories over recent years.  WA has no poker machines, except in its casino.

Could you email me any embedded threads with this data, or at least some of it?

Cheers

**Phil Johnston aka**[***Bank Teller***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/ChoresnCrew/Scribe/Scribe.htm)
0434 715.861

thread::cZjPZT\_sP5y-nS1LnD1TgxA::

**From:** IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 November 2024 4:37 PM
**To:** scribepj@bigpond.com
**Cc:** IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
**Subject:** FW: I seek data on increase in annual number of poker machines in NSW ideally from around 1975 up to 2002. Or at least from 1985. My research is for The Wesley Mission

Hi Phil,

Thank you for your recent request for data.

IPART does not have an on going role and does not collect data on number of gaming  machines. Any information we had on number of machines would be contained in the 2 reports we published

There is some data on number of machines in 2003 in our review of promoting responsible gambling published in June 2004 – chapter 3. The report is attached and

a link to the report is here chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/gambling04.pdf

<https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Special-Reviews/Archival-Publications/Report-to-Government-Inquiry-into-Gaming-in-NSW-November-1998>

Kind Regards,



**Direct** (02) 9290 8400 |

PO Box K35, Haymarket Post Shop, NSW, 1240

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**From:** Philip Johnston <scribepj@bigpond.com>
**Sent:** Monday, 18 November 2024 1:40 PM
**To:** IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
**Subject:** I seek data on increase in annual number of poker machines in NSW ideally from around 1975 up to 2002. Or at least from 1985. My research is for The Wesley Mission

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|  | You don't often get email from scribepj@bigpond.com. [Learn why this is important](https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification)  |  |

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.]

Below is an extract from 1st **Attachment** **REPORT TO GOVT: INQUIRY INTO GAMING IN NSW - INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL - Nov 1998** that cites the substantial growth in the number of poker machines in NSW (in both clubs and hotels) between June 1987 and June 1998 – 11 years:

**Figure 1 illustrates that between June** **1987 and June 1998, the total number of gaming machines in NSW grew by 94.7% which is 5.6 times above the growth in the adult population (16.8%). This means gaming machine accessibility in NSW increased by 54% from 12.8 machines per 1000 adults in 1987 to 19.7 machines per 1000 adults in 1998.**

**Figure 1          Gaming Machines in NSW**

Sources: **NSW Department of Gaming and Racing and Tasmanian Gaming Commission.**

I am undertaking research for [**Wesley Mission**](https://www.wesleymission.org.au/news-and-publications/latest-news/media-releases/poker-machine-reform-is-a-serious-public-health-issue-not-a-pr-exercise-the-clubsnsw-plan-is-as-useful-as-a-bandaid-at-a-car-crash/) to reduce poker machines in NSW, particularly in the western suburbs where the largest player monetary losses are being incurred.

[**NSW still has more poker machines than any other state in the world**](https://www.smh.com.au/politics/nsw/gambling-capital-of-australia-six-charts-that-show-the-scale-of-poker-machine-use-in-nsw-20221104-p5bvlk.html)**.**

Below is an embed thread to some of the documents that I have read and summarised key information.

[**https://muggaccinos.com/GamblingReform/Put\_Pokies\_in\_their\_place.htm**](https://muggaccinos.com/GamblingReform/Put_Pokies_in_their_place.htm)

**2nd Attachment** is my Excel file that chronicles the number of poker machines in Australia’s six States and two Territories since end June 2002 that I collectively sourced from –

* Queensland Gambling Statistician’s Office (QGSO)
* Jenny Bopp,  Principal Statistician, Queensland Government Statistician’s Office
* Bill Browne - Australian Institute - Director of the Democracy & Accountability Program

I seek the growth in poker machine numbers for NSW (clubs and hotels) prior to end June 2002

Mindful of the extract at the outset of this email that the total number of gaming machines in NSW grew by 94.7% over 11 years to June 1998, would INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL - NSW please provide a table (or an embedded thread) that lists the annual number of poker machines in NSW on a yearly basis prior to 2002.

Ideally I seek data on increase in number of poker machines in NSW from around 1975.  Or at least from 1985.  Your above extract cites the increase between June 1987 and June 1998.

Some citizens are vulnerable to alcohol.  Others to nicotine.  Others to gambling.  Other folk to illegal drugs.  Some are susceptible to more than one vice.

A vital role of government is for regulators to protect folk that cannot protect themselves.  [**The Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act 1992 banned any advertising in Australia that may encourage or persuade people to smoke or use tobacco products.**](https://www.naa.gov.au/help-your-research/fact-sheets/tobacco-advertising-ban-australia#tobacco-advertising)   Vulnerable people need greater protection against the attractions of EGMs that rely on flashing lights and spontaneous sounds.

**Phil Johnston aka**[***Bank Teller***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/ChoresnCrew/Scribe/Scribe.htm)
0434 715.861