



# FIA Submission on the proposed change to Gambling Regulation Act 2003

Victorian Office of Gaming and Racing



*We exist to make the world a better place by advancing professional fundraising through:*

- *advocacy of standards*
- *professional development pathway*
- *measurable credentials*

*so that our members achieve best practice*

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### *Fundraising Institute Australia*

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Fundraising Institute Australia (FIA) established in 1968 is the national peak body for fundraising in Australia. FIA is a company limited by guarantee. As a nonprofit body, FIA is recognised as a charitable institution. The Library Trust Fund, a Deductible Gift Recipient, is run wholly through FIA.

### **Membership**

FIA has approximately 1,600 members including almost 80 Organisational Members with a turnover of \$1 billion. FIA engages with over five thousand fundraisers across Australia through its professional development programs.

### **What do charities do for Australia**

The Giving Australia report<sup>1</sup> estimates the charitable sector is worth \$11 billion dollars to the economy in 2004. From figures taken from 1995/1996, Professor Mark Lyons estimates that “the third sector contributes 4.8% to the adjusted GDP”<sup>2</sup> in Australia. The sector provides services to welfare and rights (51.6%), education (20.5%), cultural organisations (13.7%), health (4.5%), environmental (1.5%) and others<sup>3</sup>.

Professor Lyons notes that the contribution made by the charitable sector cannot just be measured economically. The services and social impact the charitable sector provides is immeasurable and invaluable.

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<sup>1</sup> *Giving Australia, Research on Philanthropy in Australia*, Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services, Canberra, October 2005. This project was led by The Australian Council of Social Services, with QUT's Centre of Philanthropy and Non-profit Studies, University of Technology, Sydney's Centre for Australian Community Organisations and Management, Fundraising Institute Australia Ltd, Roy Morgan Research PL and McNair Ingenuity Research PL.

<sup>2</sup> Lyons, Mark *Third Sector: the contribution of nonprofit and cooperative enterprises in Australia* (Allen & Unwin, 2001) pp 198

<sup>3</sup> Queensland University of Technology, Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies. Current Issues Information Sheet 2006/5: ATO Data Deductible Gift Recipients.

Link: [http://www.bus.qut.edu.au/faculty/schools/accountancy/documents/CurrentIssues2006\\_5DGR2005.pdf](http://www.bus.qut.edu.au/faculty/schools/accountancy/documents/CurrentIssues2006_5DGR2005.pdf)

Accessed 17 April 2008

\*Figures quoted are the percentage of organisations in each category.





Mr Ross Kennedy  
Executive Director  
Office of Gaming and Racing  
PO Box 18055  
Collins Street East  
Melbourne Victoria 8003

Dear Mr Kennedy

**Re:** Proposed change to the Gambling Regulation Act 2003 - Victoria Department of Justice, Office of Gaming and Racing

FIA welcomes Victorian Office of Gaming and Racing's (VOGR) invitation to comment on the proposed change to Gambling Regulation Act 2003.

The proposed change in the duration of the declaration as a community or charitable organisation from the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation from perpetuity to every ten years is cautiously welcomed by FIA. Although, the proposed change increases the administrative burden of charitable organisations, FIA considers this a positive step in ensuring declarations remain up to date and relevant.

FIA notes that the Victorian Government is working to reduce the administrative burden of State regulation and this change may increase some administration costs, though it is anticipated these would be minimal. The Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance estimated the administrative burden of regulation imposed by State regulation of the nonprofit sector is \$1.03 billion per annum<sup>4</sup>.

FIA welcomes dialogue with VOGR on behalf of our members in the charitable and nonprofit sector in Victoria. We trust that the efforts the Victorian Government has put into reviewing the nonprofit regulation will result in tangible outcomes to the benefit of the both the government and the sector, but more importantly to benefit our communities that we both serve.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Sue-Anne Wallace FAICD MFIA  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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<sup>4</sup> Department of Treasury and Finance 2007, *Reducing the regulatory burden progress report 2006 – 2007*, Department of Treasury and Finance, Melbourne.

