



Victoria Government Gazette

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Gambling Regulation Act 2003

FIXED TERM BAN ORDER

I, Michael O'Brien MP, Minister for Gaming, pursuant to section 2.5A.9 of the **Gambling Regulation Act 2003** (the Act), hereby make a fixed term ban order for a period of 10 years banning the practice defined in this order.

For the purposes of this order, the banned practice is the practice of allowing the use of earphones, earpieces, headphones, headsets, or any other device, on a gaming machine that converts signals from a gaming machine to audible sound that is delivered to the ear of a person playing a gaming machine and is not designed or intended primarily to assist a hearing impaired person.

Pursuant to section 2.5A.9(6) of the Act, my reason for making this order is that I am satisfied that this practice undermines the responsible gambling objective in section 1.1(2)(a) of the Act. The use of earphones is likely to enhance and reinforce the behaviours of 'escaping' and 'losing oneself' that are reported by a sizeable proportion of problem gamblers who play gaming machines. Furthermore, earphones block out external sound making it difficult for others, including venue staff, to interact with a person playing a gaming machine.

This fixed term ban order will come into effect on the day it is published in the Government Gazette.

HON. MICHAEL O'BRIEN MP
Minister for Gaming

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