LITTER LEVY IS RUBBISH

Shadow Minister for Central Australia Matt Conlan has thrown his support behind Alice Springs retailers opposed to the Town Council’s proposed Liquor Litter Levy.

“While I can appreciate Council’s proposal is aimed at addressing the enormous litter problem we have in Alice Springs, I believe the concept is fundamentally flawed,” Mr Conlan said.

“Taxing liquor outlets will do nothing to reduce litter on our streets because it isn’t the retailers who dump litter in our parks and suburbs, it’s a group of people who are too selfish to walk a few meters and put their rubbish in a bin.

“I attended a meeting with liquor retailers today and they are concerned this measure will potentially cost them thousands of dollars every year and force them to lay off staff.

“My colleague Jodeen Carney has written to Alice Springs Mayor Damien Ryan expressing the Country Liberals’ opposition to the plan and Adam Giles has begun a petition on behalf of opponents of the levy.

“The Northern Territory Government’s announcement that it aims to introduce Container Deposit legislation across the Territory is a fairer and more practical litter reduction measure
“I hope Local Government Minister Rob Knight looks very carefully at the Town Council’s Liquor Litter Levy to ensure it falls under the Local Government Act.”

Further comment: Matt Conlan 0408 805 338