MEDIA RELEASE

THE FLAW IN LABOR’S FLOOR PRICE

Terry Mills MLA

Date 7th December 2010

The Henderson Government should immediately review its plan to introduce a minimum price on alcohol sold in the Territory.

Opposition Leader Terry Mills, said the proposed floor price is another example of how Labor makes the wider community pay for the shortcomings of a few.

“It’s expensive enough to live in the Territory as it is, without the Government raising the cost of alcohol as well,” Mr Mills said.

“It’s a further sign the Government is out of touch with the community that they would even consider jacking up the price of a drink.

Territorians already pay the highest rents in the country, house prices are out of reach for many workers and families, the cost of electricity has increased by 25%, a basket of groceries is the most expensive in Australia and now the Government plans to slug people who want to enjoy a drink with their evening meal or friends.

“From morning until night, this Government’s failed policies are hitting Territory workers and families in the hip-pocket.”

Mr Mills said Labor’s approach to alcohol management has seen violent crime skyrocket and the number of protective custodies hit record levels.

“The Government doesn’t seem to realise that prohibition isn’t working,” he said.

“There were 30,000 people placed in protective custody in the last financial year.

“In Alice Springs, where takeaway alcohol isn’t available until after 2pm, there were 1600 assaults last financial year – a 25% increase year on year and an 87% increase over the past 6 years.

“Instead of investing millions into infrastructure to identify where Territorians are drinking, the Government should be focusing on rehabilitation programs that reduce the demand for alcohol.”

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