

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

Poker machine tax increase under fire from within NSW Labor Party

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Independent Member for Tamworth Peter Draper has praised members of the NSW Labor Party who voted against a proposed increase in poker machine taxes in a Labor Party caucus meeting yesterday.

The NSW ALP caucus vote was split 34-34 on the proposal.

“This split vote shows just how much concern there is at the impact of this proposal. We have already seen senior Ministers speak out in opposition, now it is time for the Premier and Treasurer to listen to their colleagues,” Mr Draper said.

“This is an embarrassing result for the Treasurer and Premier. It proves that little thought has been put into this tax increase and its impact on our communities.”

“Community events and projects will lose financial and logistical support and jobs will have to be cut at local clubs. The impact of these reforms is much worse than what the Treasurer would have us believe.”

“It is not too late to ensure this proposal isn’t taken forward but local clubs need to maintain pressure. If we can prove to the Government how big an impact this proposal will have, the Premier and Treasurer will have no choice but to back down.”

“The community and local clubs need to fiercely fight this proposal.”

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