

## **SUBMISSION ON THE GAMBLING (GAMBLING HARM REDUCTION) AMENDMENT BILL**

### **TO THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE**

**FROM:** The New Zealand Kung-Fu Wushu Federation Incorporated

Contact: Mr Glen Keith (National President) Mb: (027) 249-3298 [president@wushu.org.nz](mailto:president@wushu.org.nz)

*I do not wish to appear before the Committee to speak to my submission*

### **SUBMISSION**

We recommend that the Gambling (Gambling Harm Reduction) Amendment Bill not proceed due to the damage it will do to sport in New Zealand.

This submission is made in support of the submission by the National Sports Organisations Leadership Group.

We believe the Bill is ill-conceived because in the cause of gambling harm reduction it will deliver the perverse outcome of doing profound damage to sport in New Zealand.

We believe the changes to the mechanism for distributing net proceeds from non-casino gaming machines proposed in the Bill will:

- Do lasting and widespread harm to sports organisations and sports clubs in New Zealand;
- Harm community health and wellbeing, community cohesion and connection;
- Reduce support for clubs from national sports organisations impacting on volunteers, officials, coaches, administrators, athletes and sportspeople;
- Undermine the tremendous work done by sports organisations and sports clubs to get more people active and engaged in community sports;
- Significantly increase the cost of participation and reduce access to participation in community sport;
- Jeopardise a number of future national, regional and club sports events and cause some to cease altogether;
- Reduce transparency by fragmenting funding amongst local Councils and politicise the funding process;
- Hinder the future development of sport and efforts to grow the sporting success and reputation of New Zealand.

We believe that proposals to reduce gambling harm would be better served through a comprehensive and considered review of gambling harm.

We believe that proposals to strengthen compliance and transparency in the distribution of net proceeds from non-casino gaming machines would be better served through working with the sector to tighten existing legislation and regulation where necessary.

We recommend that the Bill not proceed.