

Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform

Inquiry into the National Gambling Reform Bill 2012 and other related bills

Public hearing Tuesday 13 November 2012 – Question on notice

Question on notice requested after the public hearing

Can machines be remotely disabled by the monitoring system in South Australia regardless of the game?

Gaming machines can be remotely disabled by a monitoring system in all Australian jurisdictions except the ACT. However, this is confusing for the player because the state of the game after the machine is disabled provides no advice to the player and will in all probability appear to be a malfunction.

The machine will, for example, be in an offline (“blue screen”) mode with an audible alarm in some jurisdictions (including NSW) or display a message such as “Host disabled” on a blue screen in South Australia.

At the very least, this is considered to be an unsuitable outcome which does not provide the player with adequate information and would cause confusion and disruption in venues. As GTA has said before, messages to the player must be on the game play screen and in real time to be effective¹.

¹ Including in GTA's submission of 30 March 2012 to the Joint Select Committee
