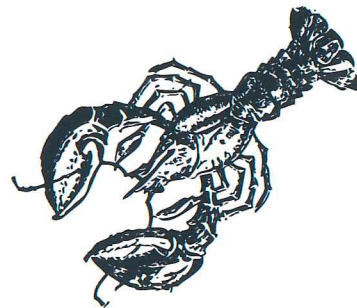
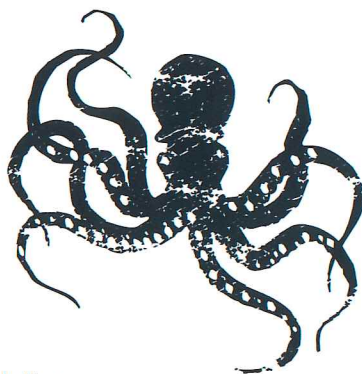


# Senate Inquiry into Seafood Labelling



In November 2014 the AHA (NT) attended before the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee inquiry into the labelling of seafood and seafood products. The inquiry was particularly interested in the impact upon hospitality venues following the introduction of the mandatory seafood labelling requirements in 2008 which has meant NT venues need to indicate on their menus as to whether the seafood is imported.

Assisting the AHA (NT) in its representations to the Senate Committee were Simon Matthews from Pee Wees on the Point and Jason Hanna from the Deck Bar, The Arch Rival and Nirvana.

During the inquiry, the AHA (NT) gave both positive and negative feedback on the

regulation including:

- AHA (NT) is supportive of the local seafood industry
- Regulation has allowed some members to promote local NT seafood more
- Promotion of NT seafood has been consistent with growing sector of food tourism
- AHA (NT) was initially opposed to regulation and additional red tape. Any regulation could have been done by adding to the existing Eating House certificate
- Regulation has seen yet another inspectorate entitled to visit our members' venues, the water police inspectorate
- Consumers are getting more savvy on asking the origins of their food and the

regulation has assisted on providing information to the consumers

- NT Seafood Council continues to promote local product
- AHA Nationally would oppose any plans to introduce such regulation beyond NT jurisdiction
- Sales of local NT seafood have increased
- The additional up front costs to amending menus were off set by transitioning into this menu compliance over a period of time.

Whilst this regulation is still under National consideration the evidence was that some NT restaurants have taken the opportunity to market and increase sales on local seafood as part of their business plan. ■



**"An APRA AMCOS rep came and talked us through what we needed, it was easy. I've been in bands and know how important it is to protect artists and generate more gigs"**

**-Brad Cochrane, Sabotage Social, Brisbane**

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