



20 March 2019

Committee Secretary  
Education, Employment and Small Business Committee  
Parliament House George Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
[EESBC@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:EESBC@parliament.qld.gov.au)

To whom it may concern

### **Australian Health Promotion Association response to the Health and Wellbeing Bill 2019**

The Australian Health Promotion Association Queensland Branch (AHPA QLD) commends the Queensland government on the *Health and Wellbeing Bill 2019* and welcomes the opportunity to provide input. The AHPA QLD provided submissions to the establishment of *Queensland Health Promotion Commission 2015*, and the establishment of the *Healthy Futures Commission Queensland Bill 2017*. In these submissions we advised on the need to adopt a population approach to address complex health issues, such as childhood obesity. Our recommendations focused on cross-sector leadership and partnerships supporting an approach that will influence the social determinants of health through system changes. It is pleasing to see this approach and strong focus on promoting health reflected in the *Health and Wellbeing Bill 2019*.

Health promotion approaches not only focus on actions directed at strengthening the skills and capabilities of individuals but also actions directed towards changing social, environmental, political and economic conditions to alleviate their impact on populations and individual health. The AHPA is the peak professional body for health promotion in Australia. It is the only professional association specifically for people interested or involved in the practice, policy, research and study of health promotion. Our association aims to:

- contribute to discussion, debate and decision-making on health promotion policy, practice and research and advocate for evidence-informed approaches.
- provide recommendations with respect to the standards of practice of health promotion as well as the training for health promotion practitioners.

The AHPA QLD would willingly provide a member able to provide health promotion expertise on the proposed Board established to govern Health and Wellbeing Queensland.

Regards,

Dr Kath McFarlane  
President | Queensland Branch  
Australian Health Promotion Association  
E: [gldbranch@healthpromotion.org.au](mailto:gldbranch@healthpromotion.org.au)

