

## Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill 2023

**Submission No:** 21  
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Committee Secretary  
Economics and Governance Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

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Via: [<EGC@parliament.qld.gov.au>](mailto:EGC@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Committee inquiry into the Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill 2023**

As a current owner of several pharmacies in Queensland, I am generally pleased with the Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill 2023 but I do have a few concerns which I request your consideration to make amendments to as outlined below.

*Clause (8(3)) Definition of core pharmacy services:*

- The current bill does not encapsulate the breadth of services that my pharmacies offer at present nor will be doing in the near future. The definition currently only covers dispensing and compounding of medications which whilst important needs to be expanded to ensure that other services offered are not outside of the regulatory control of the Bill.
- I propose the definition be changed to include more of the services that are offered in community pharmacies and online.

*(Clause 11(3)) The definition of a supermarket:*

- The definition of supermarket is also not broad enough and does not sufficiently address the increase in online businesses. The current definition covers a physical bricks and mortar store only and therefore there is a risk that a pharmacy licence may be granted to an online supermarket.
- I propose the definition be altered with to include the word 'online' and remove the word 'premises'.

*(Clause 13) What is a material interest in a pharmacy business*

- The term 'material interest' is not defined appropriately to capture the different interests that some may have or try to have in a pharmacy. Without an accurate definition people may be able to have certain interests that are outside the Bill and therefore not be able to be deemed as unlawful
- I propose the definition covers *any interest, legal or beneficial, in a pharmacy.*

*(Clauses 147, 150, 153, 207) Matters relating to the Queensland Pharmacy Business Ownership Council (the council*

- One of the desired outcomes of the Bill is to ensure that public confidence in the pharmacy profession is maintained. Currently there is no public list of community pharmacies and owners and I believe that this should be a mandatory inclusion.
- Currently our industry has a number of Acts and professional bodies and therefore this Bill does not need to cover these areas of the profession and should be limited to pharmacy business ownership and licencing only.
- The council should be made up of varied individuals from different backgrounds to ensure diversity but the majority of the members **MUST** be current registered pharmacy owners. This is a complicated industry and having those that understand it and want to improve it are those who should be the majority of the council members.
- Following on from this, I believe that there must be a limit to the length of time any member can be a member of the council. This must be in writing to ensure the council remains relevant.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hope



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