

## Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill 2023

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Committee Secretary  
Economics and Governance Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
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Via: [EGC@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:EGC@parliament.qld.gov.au)

To Whom it May Concern regarding the committee inquiry into the Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill 2023.

Firstly it is important to say thanks very much to your Government for understanding the importance of strengthening the Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill to stop people or companies from ripping off the system.

We are a family rural pharmacy where we live and work within the community. We have “skin in the game” & we do whatever it takes to look after our community. We are the most accessible health destination in town, our patients know when they or a family member have a health problem, they feel comfortable to come into our pharmacy & get immediate access to a Pharmacist. If the problem is deemed more urgent, they are referred to a GP if available or Emergency Department. These interactions occur between Queenslanders and their pharmacist thousands of times each day & go a long way to protect the health & happiness of all Queenslanders. This system works and our patients are grateful for it.

The strengthening of the Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill will help prevent profiteering from the big corporate business whose interests are profits not patients. As the corporates move in, they have the power to, for a short time, out compete smaller pharmacies, some pharmacies may close as they become less viable. This will reduce competition, putting prices up and increasing the cost of living further for Queenslanders. If pharmacy ownership gets into the hands of the Big Supermarkets, Queenslanders will be worse off, so it is imperative that only a pharmacist can own a community pharmacy & the number of pharmacies owned by a single pharmacist is capped at 5.

Transparency of ownership of pharmacy is imperative, the responsible pharmacist owner needs to be visible to all Queenslanders in a public register.

To further strengthen the Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill, it is also important to broaden the definition of pharmacy services to include:

Dispensing, prescribing, supply administering, selling, repackaging, compounding possessing, disposing of medicines & the provision of clinical service or advice. This is provided in the course of practice by a pharmacist.

In regard to the Qld Pharmacy Business Ownership COUNCIL, it is funded by the pharmacy industry to register & license pharmacy businesses. The composition of the COUNCIL as it stands currently is unacceptable. It is unfairly weighted. There must be a MAJORITY of pharmacy business owner members to ensure that the council functions as it was intended.

Thank you for listening to the concerns of Pharmacists on the front line.

Yours sincerely,  
Loretta Musumeci  
Pharmacist



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