

Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill 2023

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Economics and Governance Committee](#)
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To Whom it may concern, Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2023

I am writing to express my profound concern regarding the Pharmacist Business Ownership Bill currently under review by the Economics and Governance Committee. While the intent of the bill may be to enhance regulatory control, its retrospective nature, certain provisions, and the introduction of stamp duty implications raise significant moral, practical, and financial issues that warrant reconsideration.

The bill appears to transform what was initially proposed as an advisory council into a regulatory body, burdening pharmacists with unnecessary regulation, costs, and delays. We are at the front line of health care. I personally have done thousands of covid vaccinations, opened when everything closed in 2020. We did this to serve our community. I personally don't have the time or energy to comment in full on the bills failure to look at the current situation.

As a young owner with no financial backing, I could have never achieved what we have without help. I fear this bill will stop young enthusiastic pharmacist from getting into ownership and hence will reduce the service and reliability of community pharmacy in Queensland. Especially in Rural and remote areas.

The provision restricting pharmacists with non-practising registration from owning or having an interest in a pharmacy seems unjustified. Many new pharmacists' owners would not have the knowledge or provisions to buy a pharmacy. I went into several Banks and showed detailed cash flow predictions and tried to get into ownership. I was ridiculed, asked what its like studying for 5 years to put a label on a box. They said come back when you have half the valuation in cash. This is impossible and is widening the gap of financial distributions i.e. the decline of the middle class.

I could also go into the unfairness of CGT and Stamp duty implications but I believe this is already known. I may not be able to afford these implications and have to sell. In this situation the only losers are the community I open my doors to rain, hail or shine and myself.

A possible amendment/solution could be to introduce prescriptive legislation, This would involve enhancing investigation and enforcement powers within the current legislative framework. Adequate enforcement measures would address compliance issues without the need for the extensive regulatory overhaul proposed by the Pharmacist Business Ownership Bill.

In summary, I hope the committee can reconsider the bill and think about the unfairness this will create and the impact on young enthusiastic pharmacist that don't have boomer money. The potential impact on pharmacists, their businesses, and the broader healthcare system. A more balanced and forward-looking approach is necessary to address concerns without unduly burdening young pharmacists.

Thank you for considering my submission. I trust that the committee will carefully review the points raised to ensure the bill aligns with principles of fairness, practicality, and ensure accessibility health care from pharmacists like myself.

The Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2023 if passed into law will present an unnecessary burden on many lawfully abiding Queensland Pharmacists at a time when they least need or deserve it. We have been hit over and over to name a few, 60-day dispensing, covid, cyclones, fires and floods and when we are burnt out you wish to create a new Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2023.

If I didn't have ownership via the current system, I would have left pharmacy many years ago. I know I'm replaceable but what sort of community damage would that create. Please think very carefully about the implementation of the bill.

Sincerely,

Adam Fraser

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Pharmacist Owner.

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