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The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Queensland Branch takes this opportunity to provide comments to the Economics and Governance Committee on the *Debt Reduction and Savings Bill 2021*, specifically in relation to the proposed amendments to the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019*.

- PSA understands that the proposed amendments relating to the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* were identified during the drafting of three supporting regulations and are largely technical and minor in nature. As the peak body for pharmacists, PSA supports the approach to making regulations clear, simple and user-friendly.
- PSA regards the amendments relating to the monitored medicines database to be important if they are necessary "to ensure the database operates as intended". In particular, PSA notes that the amendment to allow for delegation of administrative power "to any appropriately qualified person" will "facilitate the future interoperability of the monitored medicines database with equivalent databases operated by other States and Territories". PSA has, for many years, advocated for a national real-time prescription monitoring system which 'overcomes' interoperability issues therefore, we fully support this amendment in the Bill.
- PSA has no objections to the other amendments outlined in Chapter 3 of the Bill that relate to:
 - o offence provisions (as they apply to requirements for checking the monitored medicines database, and the disposal of waste of all diversion-risk medicines)
 - o clarification of relevant practitioners required to check the database, and
 - o ensuring each extended practice authority is approved by regulation.

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