



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

From the President

18 December 2015

Ms Leanne Linard MP
Chair, Health and Ambulance Services Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Via Email: hasc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Linard

Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 – Amendments to the Food Act 2006

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Health and Ambulance Services Committee's consultation on the *Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2015*.

The RACP and its Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine (AFPHM) strongly support the proposed amendments to the *Food Act 2006*. Recent evidence has shown that these measures can effectively inform and educate consumers about their energy requirements and the nutritional and energy content of products. This in turn can lead to consumers positively adjusting their behaviour to choose healthier foods.¹ Requiring fast-food chains, snack-food and drinks chains, bakery chains, café chains and supermarkets to display nutritional information is therefore an important step in enabling people to make healthier and more informed decisions about their food choices.

Should you require any further information on this submission, please contact Claire Celia, Senior Policy Officer, at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

Laureate Professor Nicholas J Talley

¹ Obesity Policy Coalition (OPC) (September 2014), Policy Brief: Menu kilojoule labelling in chain food outlets in Australia. Online, available: http://www.opc.org.au/paper.aspx?ID=policy-brief-kilojoule-labelling-chain-food-outlets&Type=policydocuments#.VI4w_ni4ZaQ [last accessed 02/12/2015]