

Committee Secretary
HCDSDFVPC
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane, QLD 4000

Dear Mr Hansen

RE: Inquiry into the establishment of a Pharmacy Council and transfer of Pharmacy Ownership in Queensland

I have been made aware of the abovementioned inquiry and write to submit my views on issues within the terms of reference of this inquiry.

I request that the committee consider access to a pharmacist owner for resolution of issues. I am sure Queenslanders do not expect health concerns to be managed by a Telstra, MBF, Sunsuper, Facebook or IGA like support services. I value the access I get to pharmacists and pharmacy owners. I know that every time I visit, my issues are addressed by a highly qualified professional with my health as their objective. I know that if I have a complaint, I can normally access the highest levels of ownership, often during the same visit, usually same day, and definitely within 24 hours.

Queenslanders do not expect the same level of responsiveness from the executives or directors of Medibank, Mater, Ramsay, Optus, HIH or AMP. Queenslanders do not expect these executives and directors to regard my health as highly as my pharmacist owner.

While I understand there are other matters before the inquiry, my main concern is ensuring that community pharmacist ownership is supported by state government. This supports my access to quality health care and advice.

I request that the committee confirm the important role of pharmacist owners and recommend against deregulation.

Sincerely

