

**From:**  
**To:** [Pharmacy](#)  
**Subject:** Deregulation of Pharmacy  
**Date:** Thursday, 12 July 2018 11:16:31 AM

---

Committee Secretary  
HCDSDFVPC  
Parliament House  
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Hansen,  
Re : Inquiry into the establishment of a pharmacy council and transfer  
of pharmacy ownership in Queensland

I would like to expressedly discourage the deregulation of Pharmacy in  
Qld.

Having experienced Supermarket Pharmacy in the US, I can speak  
from personal experience and believe this to be DETRIMENTAL to all  
involved , in particular the patients.

The change in community perception and service provided to patients  
is significantly compromised, with the loss of its potency and  
professional improtance being lost in a supermarket/ openshop  
environment.

The Public's mind set completely changes, it becomes a point of  
insignificant convenience, wanting a checkout like distribution. The  
Importance and significance of providing a Health Care Point of  
contact is lost. Other health care services are provided in designated  
suits or suitable places, not in the middle or end of Coles / Woolies  
supermarket isle 6.

Pharmacists practicing in community pharmacies are the focal point for  
basic health care needs, operating as the first point of call and  
providing triage, advice, referral and support services to patients.  
These High Service Offering CANNOT be delivered in the middle of a  
supermarket or in a high pressured turn over shop.

The role of pharmacists have expanded so they become part of a  
coordinated team providing health care to their local community. In  
particular, local pharmacies, as part of a team with GPs, provide vital  
community services such as: administer vaccinations, give drug  
information to patients, review their medication and adjust doses when  
required, prescribe repeat medications for patients with simple and  
stable medical conditions such as some cases of asthma, or  
straightforward drug requirements such as the contraceptive pill and  
work with GPs to manage treatment for patients with chronic diseases.

Pharmacists are highly skilled health care professionals. Pharmacists  
providing these wider roles has been found to improve patient  
outcomes. These community services will be significantly

compromised or completely DISAPPEAR.

Risk of Patient Privacy is significant compromised . When counselling a patient on a private or sensitive matter ( such as STDs , Sexual impotence , Use of Cancer or life treatening side effects, vomitting and loss of blood through stools ) the middle of a supermarket is not the most conducive place to promote confidence or particiation for good health out comes.

Public safety in general is compromised by allowing drugs to be purchased without pharmacists advice , due to ethical or proximal pressures.

Smaller traditional pharmacies within walking distance of Supermarkets will quickly come to an end with loss of long term Community comittment , and empolyment in small businesses. Haven't the large Supermarkets already compromised Aust small businesses sufficently with the loss of small bakeries, butchers and grocers, but in this case will affect HEALTH and well being of SICK Australians.

Rural and regional areas will be be treatened, eliminating vital services for these communities. Access to the most accessible health professional , the pharmacist will disappear. The pharmacists role is most significant in some of theses rural areasas access to other health services are restricted by distance and availability.

Closure caused by deregulation will threaten jobs , Pharmacists roles and consequently increase healthcare burden on GPs and hospital systems.

Deregulation will bring other consequences that create moral hazards. Supermarkets , sell cigarettes and alcohol should be autonomically ruled out. Doctors and medical corporation and drug manufactures all have percuniary interests whom may all profit unethically from the medications prescribed or provided.

It is my genuine concern and experience that in the end, if deregulation of pharmacies occur, it will be the public/patients who have the most to loose. Dereguation of Pharamcy will be the demise of one of our community's primary professional health care services. All Austalians , including remote areas, deserve to have access to affordable and high quality care in their Community Pharmacy.

Yours sincerely  
Michelle Stone

Sent from my iPhone