



10 July 2018

Health, Community and Disability Services, Domestic and Family Violence Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Mr. Hansen,

I have recently been made aware of the inquiry into Queensland's pharmacy industry and am writing to you to voice my concerns as a regular pharmacy customer.

I am 86 years of age this year and regularly visit my local pharmacy, Greenslopes Discount Drug Store. I have been going to this pharmacy for many years and wouldn't go anywhere else. The pharmacists and the amount of care they have for patients like me keeps me coming back time and time again.

The pharmacists and assistants know me by name, they always make sure there's a seat for me while I wait for my prescriptions and they deliver my medications to my house when I can't get into the store.

I could go on, but these are just a few small – but memorable – things I believe big businesses just wouldn't do for me. And at my age, this extra care is more helpful than you know. I need this level of care from my first point-of-contact when it comes to my health.

I cannot wait to see a doctor sometimes, so I am very reliant on the pharmacy and the services they provide. I am concerned that allowing corporations to come in and take over would threaten my local pharmacy and stop me from getting the best health care and services I need.

I don't want to put my health into the hands of Coles or Woolworths but if the deregulation goes ahead, I believe I won't have a choice. I know supermarkets won't care for me like my pharmacy and pharmacists do.

At Greenslopes Discount Drug Store, I am a valued patient. At Coles and Woolworths, I am just another way to make money. I know my pharmacy is genuinely interested in my health and wellbeing given they worked so hard to be pharmacists, but I know big businesses would be more focused on profits.

Regards,

J. A. Cunderason

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ph. [redacted]