11 July 2018

Committee Secretary, Pharmacy Review HCDSDFVPC Parliament House Brisbane

Dear Committee Secretary,

I have been made aware by my local Pharmacist of the proposed changes to the Pharmacy Ownership Laws. I DO NOT support these changes. I do not want to see huge companies and Pharmaceutical companies take over our local Pharmacy industry.

Pharmaceutical manufactures, Doctors and Medical corporates should not be allowed to own Pharmacies placing the community health at risk so that these groups may profit from the more medicines they prescribe.

Currently - Pharmacists own the business and a Pharmacist must be in store at all times.

People in regional and rural areas rely on their Pharmacists as one of the most accessible health providers in the community. Some areas do not even have a regular Doctor / GP service.

I along with many others rely on my Pharmacy for health professional support - with minor ailments, additional health support after seeing my GP and during the long hours they are open, when my GP is NOT AVAIABLE.

Does the Qld. Government want to place more burden on the Hospital ED and Outpatient departments, in particular after hours.

The local Pharmacist is a community member - a local business operator and an employer.

Deregulating the industry will see a decline in the professional health services (it will be a JOB- nothing more) and a dumbing down of the industry over the counter health service.

Please let COMMON SENSE prevail and LEAVE the Pharmacy industry alone. The system IS NOT broken - it does not need changes.

I hope the Committee sees reasoning and considers the important role of Pharmacy's as they are NOW, in our local community and the committee recommend AGAINST deregulation.

Thanking you for your time.

Regards

Lenore