

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

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission, in it I wish to highlight the over whelming need for a community pharmacy owned and operated by the passionate pharmacist's that strive to meet the needs of their local communities. Let me start my story by explaining a little of the demographic I serve in Logan. Logan has one of the most diverse populations in Queensland with over 217 ethnicities represented, in 2016 over 80 000 people living in Logan were born overseas and 18% arrived in Australia within the preceding 5 years. Logan is also a struggling community as the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage was 959 in 2016. Community pharmacy's in Logan face a unique challenge of managing their patients' medication needs and the needs of their businesses. Pharmacists ethics are challenged on a daily basis to best support their clients who survive in precarious financial situations. We continually strive to ensure best practice and that our clients are never at a disadvantage. The advent of deregulation would allow the conglomerates in which would disadvantage our clients.

We have adapted over the years to cater to the needs of our community, we service the local mental health centres with medication advice and have spent years building these relationships. We know our customers by name and enquire after their loved ones, both 2 and 4 legged. All of these relationships have been built over a number of years as we have a vested interest in our community. These invaluable relationships are priceless, their value cannot be quantified to profit margins. Allowing anyone to own a pharmacy means we will lose the moral and ethical responsibility pharmacists show towards the community and the community would be disadvantaged for it.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further concerns.

Kind regards

Kosar Latif

Pharmacist Manager

Logan Central Plaza Pharmacy