

12th July 2018

Committee Secretary
HCDSDFVPC
Parliament House
George St
Brisbane 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 I write to submit my views on issues within the terms of reference of this inquiry.

As a patient who relies on support from my local pharmacy I am concerned about the possibility of losing that support if big business is allowed to take over the pharmacies in QLD.

I know firsthand the contribution that pharmacists make to their local communities and I believe that reregulating the laws of ownership would have a detrimental effect on myself and my community. I want the current system where the owner of my local pharmacy has health outcomes as their primary focus, not profit or shareholders.

The PBS is an integral part of the pharmacy and should not be placed into the hands of big business. I wonder what other consequences not yet thought of that may happen if my pharmacist is no longer owned by a pharmacist, but rather by a corporation.

I ask that the committee consider the important role of pharmacies and recommend against deregulation.

Kind regards

Sue Smith