



Law Society House, 179 Ann Street, Brisbane Qld 4000, Australia  
GPO Box 1785, Brisbane Qld 4001 | ABN 33 423 389 441  
P 07 [REDACTED] | F 07 [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] qls.com.au  
Office of the President

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Our ref: VK-HD/ELC

Health, Communities, Disability Services and  
Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

By email: [health@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:health@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Committee Secretary

### Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 (the **Bill**). The Queensland Law Society (**QLS**) appreciates being consulted on this important piece of legislation.

QLS is the peak professional body for the State's legal practitioners. We represent and promote over 13,000 legal professionals, increase community understanding of the law, help protect the rights of individuals and advise the community about the many benefits solicitors can provide. QLS also assists the public by advising government on improvements to laws affecting Queenslanders and working to improve their access to the law.

This response has been compiled by the QLS Elder Law and Health and Disability Law committees, whose members have substantial expertise in this area. The Society is pleased to report that upon review of the Bill, we find most of the proposed amendments to be sensible and reasonably necessary to assist in facilitating the policy intention with respect to each particular act to be amended, should the Bill be passed.

We raise the following for your consideration:

#### Amendments to the Retirement Villages Act 1999

QLS notes the proposed amendments to the *Retirement Villages Act 1999* (the **Retirement Villages Act**), and the policy intention described in the explanatory notes to the Bill that the changes set out in Part 9 are to clarify a recent amendment to ensure timely payment of exit entitlements at retirement villages, and make associated amendments to the *Duties Act 2001*.

## Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

Whilst QLS considers that arguably, this intention was already fulfilled by virtue of the amendments made to the Retirement Villages Act upon the passing of the *Housing Legislation (Building Better Futures) Amendment Act 2017*, we agree that the proposed amendments set out in the Bill now puts these requirements beyond any doubt.

If you have any queries regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact our Senior Policy Solicitor, Vanessa Krulin by phone on [REDACTED] or by email to [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully



Bill Potts  
President