

HCDSDFVPC

From: Julian Tommei <Julian.Tommei@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 2 March 2018 2:10 PM
To: HCDSDFVPC
Subject: Hospital Foundations Bill 2018

Good day

I refer to my discussions with Rob Hanson over the past few days where I indicated that I was considering a submission but due to workload induced time constraints had unfortunately missed the deadline.

In essence the nature of my concern relates to the prospect that the proposed amendments to the membership of Hospital Foundation Boards (section 30) read with the proposed amendments to the objects (section 7) and functions (section 15) have the combined effect that funds raised by a Foundation may be able to be diverted away from the associated Hospital and Health Service (HHS) and towards broader public health services. It seems reasonably clear to me that the HHS membership on the Board is being reduced from a minimum of three in the Act to one in the Bill. All the members are appointed by the Minister who only needs to consult with the Chair of the HHS in relation to such appointments. The Board upon which the HHS now only has one representative and one vote is not limited to the HHS priorities in its functions and merely has to have regard to same. So I think the question arises if a Foundation Board decides to use the funds it has raised from the local community for purposes other than the associated HHS, is there any provision in the Bill preventing it from doing so? As such I think there is potential for communities to be misled as they will be under the impression that the money they donate to a Foundation will go to the HHS or local hospital which may well then not be the case. There also appears to be no jurisdictional limitation meaning funds do not even need to be applied to the area in which it was raised which again could be concerning to donors. It seems to me there appears to be a need to more tightly circumscribe these issues in order that there is not a diversion (intended or not) of funding raised by a local community through the Foundation towards other broader public health services or even to other areas. In that regard the fact that foundations jointly raised about \$74 million in 2016-2017 is also material in my view as we are then dealing with a significant pot of money which under the current Act is reasonably tightly ring fenced in accordance with public expectation that their donations are going towards improving their local health services.

Thank you for the opportunity to raise the concerns at this late stage and apologies for the brief nature of same.

Regards

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