

Submission in relation to Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

It is quite obvious that good faith tort defences will not be available to the individuals implementing reforms that allow the regulator greater authority in Australia in 2017. There has been two senate inquiries relating to the misuse of the regulatory system in Australia and it is now at a stage where it has been referred to the next COAG meeting. To even raise the possibility of increasing their authority in this environment is staggering. The problems identified with the regulatory system have to be properly addressed before their power can be increased.

Whilst I personally don't have an issue with the proposed amendments in a well-functioning regulatory system, it is obvious that they will be abused in the current regulatory system. Protection of the public dictates that a corrupted regulatory system must be corrected before additional authority can be accorded to it. As such, the people voting in the amendments have to expect to be sued in the future by the people victimised under these new powers. That is how our legal system is constructed. Nobody is above being sued in civil court in our legal system.

Karinallee Honeyman