



Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group

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The Research Director
Health and Community Services Committee
Parliament House
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BRISBANE QLD 4000

To the Research Director

Response to Health Ombudsman Bill 2013

The Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group (APEG) is the professional body in Australia and New Zealand which represents those involved in management and/or research of children with disorders of the endocrine system including diabetes mellitus and now write in relation to the Health Ombudsman Bill 2013.

The APEG Council is concerned that the APEG members in Qld will lose a key level of protection with the proposed changes hastily put before the Queensland Parliament.

Paediatric Endocrinologists often treat patients in areas of DSD, GID and serious medical conditions such as diabetes. These are only a few areas of treatment for paediatric endocrinologists and treatment of such conditions will sometimes put the medical practitioner at odds with the health department or targeted pressure groups.

Medical Practitioners need to be able to make professional, independent decisions, with the best interests of their patients at the top of their priorities at all times.

The changes to role of the Medical board and introduction of the Health Ombudsman will remove a significant level of protection for the medical profession, including Paediatric Endocrinologists. The main concern of APEG is that the proposal plan to remove review by qualified peers (who understand the difficulties of medical treatment and practice).

APEG Council feel that these changes will make the role of the practitioner vulnerable to contrary, uninformed views.

Yours sincerely



PAUL HOFMAN
APEG President