

From: Patrick Gibney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 21 June 2013 7:59
To: Townsville Electorate Office
Subject: Health Ombudsman Bill

Mr J Hathaway M.P.,

Townsville

Dear John,

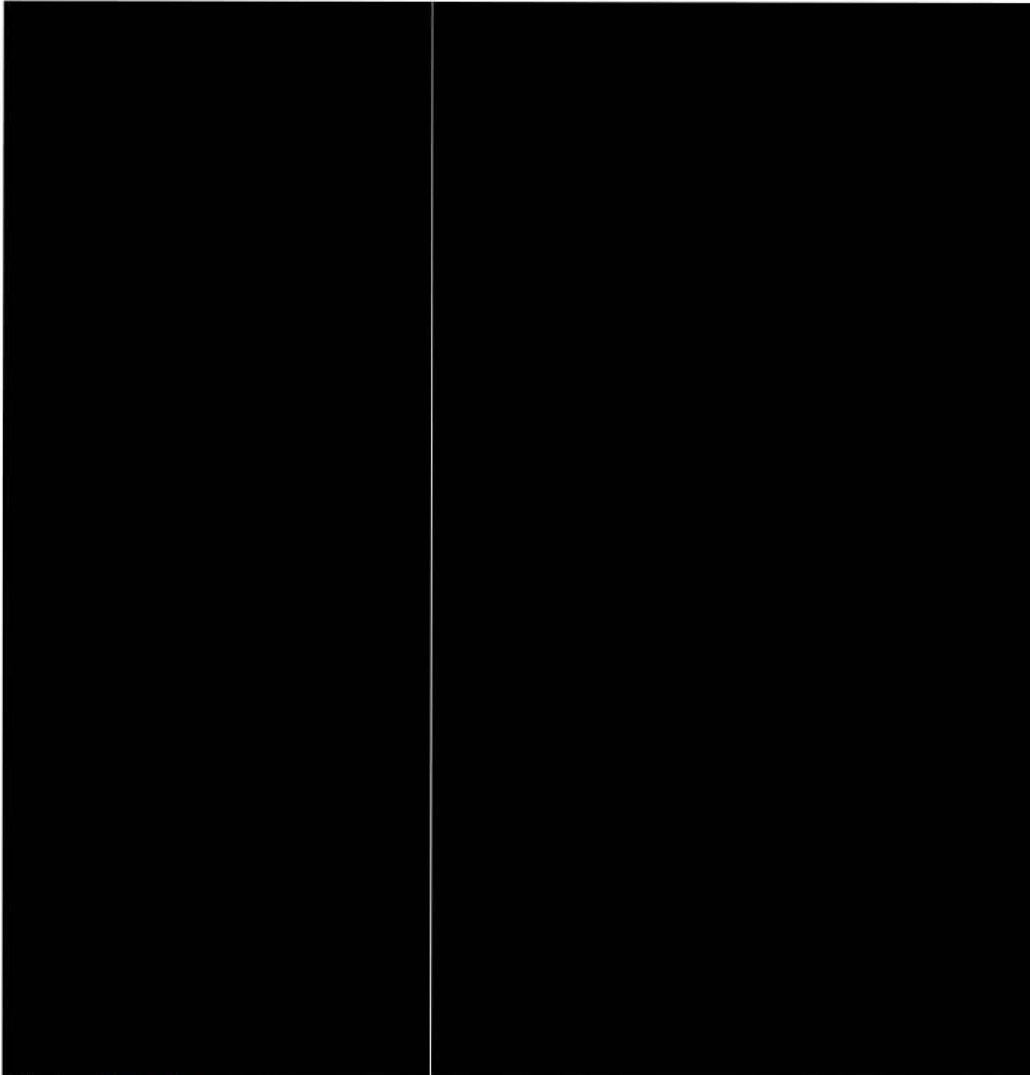
I've met you at the NQ Club a couple of times and at LNP functions but haven't had cause to talk to you at length since I am in the Mundingburra Electorate and not Townsville.

The purpose of this missive is to acquaint you, in your capacity as a Member of the Health and Community Services Committee with some of the real perils of the name and shame aspects of the proposed Health Ombudsman Bill, the restructure of the Medical Board of Queensland and this State's total acceptance of the Australian Health Professionals Registration Authority. These are concerns from a real-world GP and not some Academic in an Ivory Tower, Lawyer or Public Servant. I will detail some cases that have involved me personally and have only been managed by the expenditure of considerable time and money, both mine and Public.

In the 1st case a woman made a complaint that I had irreparably damaged her health by surgically removing a skin lesion from her lower leg which later became infected preventing her from exercising and the gain weight making her metabolic disease worse. You can imagine how popular this would have been with the Press. After long investigating the Health Complaints Commission found against her noting that a) the lesion removed was malignant and that she had had several earlier malignancies removed b) that she was already double her recommended BMI when the lesion was removed and c) that she had contributed to her own misfortune by ignoring my advice to keep the wound elevated until it began to heal and had continued her cleaning jobs in spite of it. As you will know from experience with the press my vindication would have been luck to get a mention on Page 10 while the original claim would have received a Banner on Page 1.

On the 2nd occasion the investigating officer of an Insurance Company tried to force me to release my notes on a patient (proven under Common Law to be my Intellectual Property) to her firm for a negligible fee by reporting me to the HCC for endangering the patient's interests. Again I was vindicated but I'm sure that it wouldn't have been dealt with fairly under Courier Mail or Townsville Bulletin Justice as is proposed by the Health Ombudsman Act.

[REDACTED]



Kindest Regards,
Dr. Pat Gibney, GP Aitkenvale

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