

Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

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Submitted by: Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)
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Submitter Comments:
Submitter Recommendations:

1 June 2022

Committee Secretary
Health and Environment Committee
Parliament House

By email to: hec@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

Re: Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

Thank you for inviting the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) to provide feedback to your consideration of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (the Bill).

The RANZCP is the principal organisation representing the medical speciality of psychiatry in Australia and New Zealand and is responsible for training, educating and representing psychiatrists on policy issues. The RANZCP represents more than 7400 members.

The RANZCP has provided feedback to the Health Chief Executives Forum preliminary consultation in April 2021, and to the [2018 amendments to mandatory reporting requirements](#). The RANZCP recognises that aspects of our feedback have been addressed.

There are further opportunities to address aspects of our previous feedback, particularly in relation to the 'disclosure of information to protect the public' amendments included within the Bill. On these amendments, the RANZCP previously recommended:

- implementing safeguards to protect practitioners as appropriate
- upholding practitioner confidentiality to the greatest extent possible

It is essential that in all cases practitioners should be notified prior to the release of information, and the process should be subject to a show cause process and subject to appeal at tribunal level to ensure appropriate procedural fairness for practitioners.

To discuss the matters raised in this letter, please contact Nicola Wright, Senior Manager, Policy and Practice via [REDACTED] or by phone at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Associate Professor Vinay Lakra

President

Ref: 3001

27 April 2021

NRAS Review Implementation Project Secretariat
Workforce Regulation
Health and Human Services Workforce Branch
Department of Health and Human Services

By email to: NRAS.Project@health.vic.gov.au

Dear Secretariat

Re: Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Amendment Bill 2021 Consultation

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Health Chief Executives Forum (HCEF) preliminary consultation on the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Amendment Bill 2021 (the Draft Bill).

The RANZCP is responsible for training, educating and representing psychiatrists in Australia and New Zealand. The RANZCP has more than 6700 members, including around 5000 fully qualified psychiatrists. Several RANZCP Committees were consulted to develop the RANZCP submission, including the Committee for Professional Practice, Faculty of Psychotherapy Committee, and the Section of Private Practice Psychiatry Committee.

The RANZCP delivers specialist education and training and we support the principles of transparency, consistency and fairness in all decision-making regarding accreditation matters. The RANZCP has worked with the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman (NHPO) on its Review of Accreditation Processes and we welcome future collaboration with the NHPO on improving accreditation complaints processes.

The RANZCP commends the HCEF on the decision to implement reforms that will improve the health and safety of practitioners, while ensuring public safety is prioritised. We have provided comment on selected provisions of the Draft Bill in the **attached** submission.

For any queries regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Rosie Forster, Executive Manager, Practice, Policy and Partnerships, at [REDACTED] or by phone on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Associate Professor John Allan
President

Ref: 2255