

## Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Surgeons) Amendment Bill 2023

**Submission No:** 6

**Submitted by:** Office of the Health Ombudsman

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**Submitter Comments:**

11 May 2023

Mr Aaron Harper MP  
Chair  
Health and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000

Email sent to: [hec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:hec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Harper

I refer to the email from the Health and Environment Committee dated 21 April 2023 inviting submissions to the Committee regarding the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Surgeons) Amendment Bill 2023*.

I confirm that the OHO made a detailed submission to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Review Implementation Project Team (NRAS project team) dated 1 April 2022 regarding the proposal to regulate the use of the title 'surgeon'. In my submission it was indicated that the OHO is supportive of the proposal to take further steps to restrict or regulate the use of the title 'surgeon' within the medical profession.

I note that the Bill proposes to amend the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law 2009* to

- protect the title 'surgeon' within the medical profession to safeguard the public and strengthen the regulation of cosmetic surgery in Australia; and
- clarify the decision-making authority of tribunals after hearing a matter about a registered practitioner.

I confirm that my view is that protecting the use of the title 'surgeon' will assist health consumers in making informed decisions about their care. Accordingly, I am supportive of the Bill and would be happy to provide the Committee with any further information or points of clarification if this would be of assistance.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Yours sincerely



Dr Lynne Coulson Barr OAM  
**Health Ombudsman**