

## **Inquiry - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024**

<b>Submission No:</b>	11
<b>Submitted by:</b>	The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
<b>Publication:</b>	Making the submission and your name public
<b>Attachments:</b>	See attachment
<b>Submitter Comments:</b>	

30 September 2024

Office of the Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee  
Queensland Parliamentary Services

By email to: [HEAC@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:HEAC@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Office of the Health Environment and Agriculture Committee,

**Re: Inquiry into the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation  
Amendment Bill 2024**

Thank you for consulting the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) on the Bill to amend the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (National Law) to improve public protection and public confidence in the safety of services provided by registered health practitioners.

The RANZCP is broadly supportive of the proposed amendments to the Bill. The RANZCP supports that in any decision-making and applications of the National Law, the most important considerations are the protection of the public and the public's confidence in the safety of registered health practitioners.

The RANZCP is specifically supportive of ongoing publication of the practitioner's regulatory history in relation to all transgressions of a sexual nature including sexual boundary violations. The RANZCP has a [Zero tolerance policy on proven sexual boundary violations](#). It is the view of the RANZCP that sexual boundary violations erode the trust that is integral to the psychiatrist-patient relationship. The RANZCP supports that sexual offences are incompatible with registration as a registered health practitioner regardless of the time passed, or the behaviour of the individual since the offending, given the high risk of recidivism. The RANZCP would further request that the National Law consider proven sexual boundary violations be included as an offence for termination of a practitioners' registration, as well as a prohibition for re-registration, in all circumstances.

Should you wish to discuss any of the matters in this letter, please contact Nicola Wright, Executive Manager, Policy, Practice, and Research at [REDACTED] or on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Dr Elizabeth Moore  
**President**

Ref: 4626