

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

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Invitation to ACCYPN for comment

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

Further information

For more information about the inquiry process please visit the [inquiry webpage](#) or contact the committee secretariat on 07 3553 6626 or HEIC@parliament.qld.gov.au.

Response:

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The objectives of the amendments are to:

- protect public safety by establishing a nationally consistent process for practitioners to regain registration after their registration has been cancelled, or they have been disqualified from registration, by a tribunal – cancelled and disqualified practitioners will be required to obtain a reinstatement order from a responsible tribunal before applying to a National Board for re-registration
- increase transparency for the public about disciplinary action against health practitioners who have been found by a tribunal to have engaged in serious sexual misconduct – National Boards will be required to permanently publish additional information on the national public registers
- strengthen protections for notifiers (complainants) against reprisals or other detriment, threats and intimidation, and clarify consumer protections in relation to nondisclosure agreements about the health, conduct or performance of health practitioners.

Of note

Clause 9

Amendment of s 126 (Tribunal to be assisted by assessors)

(1) Section 126(1), 'relating to a registered health practitioner'— omit.

(2) Section 126(1)(b), '2 assessors'— omit, insert— for a proceeding relating to a registered health practitioner—2 assessors ACCYPN notes that assessors need to be appointed by the Tribunal and there be no conflict of interest relating to the disqualified person.

(3) Section 126(1)— insert— (c) for a proceeding relating to an application made by a disqualified person for a reinstatement order under the National Law, section 198A—2 assessors chosen by the principal registrar from the professional panel of assessors for the profession to which the application relates. 1 2 3 Clause 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 C

The Board of Directors of ACCYPN supports the above changes to the National Law.

Sincerely

Yvonne Parry

Associate Professor Yvonne K Parry, PhD, FACCYPN,

Chair: Australian College of Children and Young People Nursing