

Research Director
Legal Affairs, Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Via email: lapcsesc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Comments re: Right to Information (Government-related Entities) Amendment Bill 2011

The Health Quality and Complaints Commission (HQCC) is an independent and impartial statutory organisation dedicated to improving the safety and quality of healthcare provided in Queensland. The HQCC provides oversight, review and reports on the quality of all health services in Queensland. The HQCC's functions include managing complaints, investigating serious healthcare issues and monitoring the quality of health services.

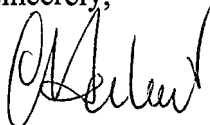
Amendment Bill

The HQCC is supportive of the Bill which will extend the meaning of a "public authority" under the *Right to Information Act 2009* (RTI Act) to include any corporation supported directly or indirectly by government funds or other assistance or over which the State, a minister or a department is in a position to exercise control.

The HQCC notes the substance of the Bill arises out of recommendations resulting from the independent expert review of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* in June 2008. The HQCC supports the aim of the Bill which is to ensure transparency and accountability of government by extending the jurisdiction of the RTI Act to private organisations contracted by government to perform functions that are the responsibility of government to deliver to the public. The HQCC considers it is appropriate to extend the jurisdiction of the RTI Act to documents relating to the performance of such a function by such an organisation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Issues Paper. [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



Adjunct Professor Cheryl Herbert
Chief Executive Officer
11 November 2011