



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AGED CARE AND SPORT
Inquiry into the Hearing Health and Wellbeing of Australia

Wednesday, 12 April 2017

Hearing Health on the Agenda in Brisbane

On Friday, 21 April 2017, the Australian Parliament's Health, Aged Care and Sport Committee will hold a public hearing in Brisbane as part of its *Inquiry into the Hearing Health and Wellbeing of Australia*.

Representatives of the Deadly Ears Program and the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council will meet with the Committee to discuss programs to improve ear health in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The Committee Chair, Mr Trent Zimmerman MP, stated 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are three times more likely to experience ear disease and hearing loss than the general community. The potential benefits of reducing the prevalence of ear disease in Indigenous communities are huge, particularly in the classroom where too many students are battling chronic or recurring ear infections'.

National Seniors Australia will also be meeting with the Committee to discuss the hearing support needs of older Australians. '74 per cent of Australians over the age of 70 experience hearing loss, it is therefore vital that we ensure older Australians have access to high quality hearing services from trusted providers' Mr Zimmerman stated.

Further information about the Committee's inquiry, including the public hearing program is available at http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Health_Aged_Care_and_Sport/HearingHealth/Public_Hearings

PUBLIC HEARING DETAILS:

Friday, 21 April 2017, 9.00 am to 2.05 pm
Conference Room, Commonwealth Parliamentary Office
Level 36, 1 Eagle Street, Waterfront Place, BRISBANE.

Live Remote Captioning is available for this hearing. For more details please see:
http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Health_Aged_Care_and_Sport/HearingHealth/Public_Hearings

Media enquiries:

Please contact Luke Barnes, Media Advisor from the office of Mr Trent Zimmerman MP, Chair, on 0422 726 621. Luke.Barnes@aph.gov.au

Background:

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport, (02) 6277 4145, health.reps@aph.gov.au, <http://www.aph.gov.au/health>