



Queensland
Government

Department of Health

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Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Secretary
Standing Committee on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Radcliffe

Thank you for your invitation to provide a submission to the Inquiry into the Australian National Preventive Health Agency (Abolition) Bill 2014.

Queensland was a strong participant in the National Preventative Health Taskforce that recommended the establishment of a national preventive health agency. Since the establishment of the Australian National Preventive Health Agency (ANPHA) in 2011, the Queensland Department of Health has forged strong working relationships with ANPHA and has been appreciative of the products of ANPHA's activities.

ANPHA's vision – A healthy Australian society, where the promotion of health is embraced by every sector, valued by every individual, and includes everybody – remains relevant. As the functions of ANPHA are integrated into the Commonwealth Department of Health, it will be important to maintain the following functions:

- Drive the preventive health agenda.
- Build broad and comprehensive prevention and health promotion capacity.
- Lead, facilitate and promote programs that keep people healthy.
- Promote healthy public policy.
- Develop knowledge systems that enable evidence-informed policy and practice.
- Guide improvements in national surveillance systems and ensure information is made readily available.
- Embed prevention and health promotion action at the primary care level.
- Manage preventive health research with a focus on translating research into practice.

The maintenance and strengthening of these functions will provide leadership in preventing chronic disease and promoting health across the entire Australian community.

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Thank you again for the opportunity to provide a submission to this inquiry. I hope your consideration of submissions and other evidence leads to improving the health of all Australians.

Yours sincerely

Mark West
A/Senior Director Preventive Health

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