Inquiry into approval processes for new drugs and novel medical technologies in Australia Submission 1

From: Robert h

To: <u>Committee, Health (REPS)</u>

Subject: submission: Inquiry into approval processes for new drugs and novel medical technologies in Australia

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to the committee regarding the Inquiry into approval processes for new drugs and novel medical technologies in Australia,

It is in the national interest that payments from foreign donors to entities within Australia that promote new drugs and novel medical technologies be considered a form of foreign interference. Such organizations, corporations, entities or individuals must register as agents of foreign influence. If a proxy is used to distribute honoraria, income-in-kind, research grants or other payment, such as a locally registered subsidiary, then national security laws should also apply in such circumstances. This is necessary to ensure the integrity of Australia's ability to provide evidence based medical care to its residents and citizens.

It has been suggested over the years internationally that national compulsory registers be established for medical researchers and lobbyists to publish their funding sources and conflicts of interest on a public register in order to ensure transparency however specialists on the gravy train strongly oppose this due to their conflicts of interest.

Robert Heron