



# Inquiry into Health Funding – Roundtable

## *North Shore Private Hospital, Sydney - 23 and 24 August 2005*

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing will hold roundtable public hearings in Sydney on 23 and 24 August as part of its federal inquiry into health funding.

The focus of the roundtables will be on the private health sector. One of the Committee's terms of reference is, "how best to ensure that a strong private health sector can be sustained in the future, based on positive relationships between private health funds, private and public hospitals, medical practitioners, other health professionals and agencies in the various levels of government".

The Committee Chairman, the Hon Alex Somlyay, said, "the two roundtables will give the private health insurance industry, private hospitals and some of the many professionals working in the private sector an opportunity to discuss with the Committee the key issues affecting their sector."

Some of the issues to be discussed over the two days include:

- Contracting arrangements between private hospitals and private health insurance funds
- Portability of health care cover and informed financial consent
- Scope of private health insurance cover
- Government relations
- Operation of Private Hospitals
- Reform of the private health sector

Witnesses from the following organisations will attend on 23 August:

- Australian Private Hospitals Association
- Catholic Health Australia
- Australian Health Insurance Association
- MBF Australia
- Medibank Private Limited
- Australian Health Service Alliance
- Australian Medical Association
- Australian Society of Anaesthetists
- Australian Diagnostic Imaging Association

Chief executive officers and chief financial officers from the Australian Private Hospitals Association and Catholic Health Australia, along with representatives of other private health funds and private hospitals will also attend a roundtable on the morning of 24 August.

**Venue:**

North Shore Private Hospital, Conference Centre, Westbourne Street, St Leonards, NSW

**Tuesday 23 August:** 9.30am to 4.00pm

**Wednesday 24 August:** 9.30am to 12.15pm

**For media interview with the Chairman:** Please contact the Committee Secretary on 02 6277 4579 or 0421 051 837.

**For a copy of the terms of reference and further information on making a submission:** Contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4145 or email [haa.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:haa.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa/healthfunding/index.htm>