



12 September 2008

The Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir

National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits – Charges) Regulations 2008 – consultation draft

We thank you for your invitation to make a written submission to the inquiry into the National Health Amendment (Pharmaceuticals Benefits – Charges) Regulations 2008 – consultation draft.

Through the listing of generic medicines on the schedule, GMiA members deliver many millions of dollars' savings annually to the PBS, the most important brake to the growth of the PBS. The listing fees for generic medicines must reflect the benefits these savings deliver to the PBS and Australian consumers.

The GMiA believes that the proposed fees for new brands of existing pharmaceutical items, as detailed in Schedule 1 – Lodgment fees, reflect the level of activity involved in the listing of these products on the PBS.

Also, we note your advice about the Committee's hearing on this matter on 22 September 2008 but decline the offer to participate on this occasion.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Di Ford".

Di Ford
Executive Director