



Premier of Victoria

1 Treasury Place
Melbourne Victoria 3002
GPO Box 4912
Melbourne Victoria 3001
Telephone: (03) 9651 5000
Facsimile: (03) 9651 5054
Email: premier@dpc.vic.gov.au
DX210753

D11/81393

Ms Toni Matulick
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Matulick

I write with reference to the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs' inquiry into the *National Health Reform (National Health Performance Authority) Bill 2011* (the Bill).

The Victorian Government has a number of significant concerns about the Bill and therefore welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to this important inquiry.

The Bill is fundamentally different from what the Victorian Government agreed at the 13 February 2011 COAG meeting, in that the National Health Performance Authority is proposed to undertake functions beyond performance reporting. Victoria considers that there are more efficient and effective ways to achieve COAG's objectives with regard to improving transparency and accountability.

Attached is a short submission that details the Victorian Government's concerns and proposals. I note the submission made to the Committee by the Western Australian Government and I share the concerns expressed in that submission, particularly in relation to the inconsistency of the Bill with the Heads of Agreement signed at COAG on 13 February 2011, and provide some additional proposals to progress the issue.

Thank you for the extension of time granted to allow the Victorian Government to provide this submission.

Yours sincerely


Ted Baillieu MLA
Premier

