



## **Roundtable forum on burns prevention** **1 February, Parliament House, Canberra**

The House of Representatives Health Committee will convene a panel of experts, academics, medical practitioners and burns survivors to discuss issues surrounding the prevention of burns at a roundtable forum being held in the **Main Committee Room**, Parliament House, Canberra on **Monday, 1 February 2010**.

According to the Julian Burton Burn's Trust, burn injury in Australia:

- is the third highest cause of accidental death in children under the age of five;
- affects 200,000 Australians each year;
- is 65 per cent more likely to occur in the home environment;
- is 23 per cent more likely to occur in a remote area than a metropolitan location; and
- costs the community more than \$150 million per year.

"These are astonishing figures and reinforce the fact that a focus on burns prevention is vital, not just from a personal but also a community perspective. Therefore the Health Committee has decided to convene a roundtable forum on burns prevention to better understand ways to reduce the number and cost of burn injuries to Australian society and the health system," Committee Chair Steve Georganas MP said.

The roundtable forum will commence at **9:00 am**, and discussion will be focused around two topics, namely:

1. The impact of burn injuries on the individual, the family and the health system
2. Ways to prevent or minimise burn injuries and their costs to the health system

The hearing will also be webcast live on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

All are welcome to attend

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Steve Georganas, on (08) 8376 9000 (Electorate office).

**For all other information:** please contact the Inquiry Secretary by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's inquiry website: [www.aph.gov.au/haa](http://www.aph.gov.au/haa)