



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AGED CARE AND SPORT
Inquiry into Hearing Health and Wellbeing in Australia

Wednesday, 9 November 2016

Hearing Health and Wellbeing Inquiry Commences

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport has commenced an *Inquiry into Hearing Health and Wellbeing of Australia*.

Currently, one in six Australians is affected by hearing loss and as the population ages it has been forecast that by 2050 this could rise to one in four Australians. Hearing impairment can impact on a person's participation in social situations and may adversely affect their education and employment opportunities.

The economic impact of hearing impairment is also significant with Access Economics estimating that in 2005 hearing loss cost the Australian economy \$11.75 billion.

The Committee Chair, Mr Trent Zimmerman MP, stated 'the inquiry will investigate the causes and costs of hearing loss, opportunities for improving access to hearing services, and research into new treatments for hearing loss'.

Submissions from interested individuals and organisations are invited by **23 December 2016**. The preferred method of receiving submissions is by electronic format lodged [online](#) using a My Parliament account.

Further information about the Committee's inquiry, including the full terms of reference and details on how to lodge a submission are available on the Committee's [website](#).

Media enquiries:

Please contact Luke Barnes, Media Advisor from the office of Mr Trent Zimmerman MP, Chair, on 0422 726 621. Luke.Barnes@aph.gov.au

Background:

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport
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