

28 April 2011

Ms Toni Matulick
Inquiry Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Matulick

Submission on the National Health Reform Amendment (National Health Performance Authority) Bill 2011

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the *National Health Reform Amendment (National Health Performance Authority) Bill 2011*, referred to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee on 24 March 2011.

The Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) is the national peak body representing the interests of Australian healthcare consumers. CHF works to achieve safe, quality, timely healthcare for all Australians, supported by accessible health information and systems.

CHF welcomes the establishment of the National Performance Authority, as we anticipate that it should result in the introduction of rigorous performance indicators at a national level, which will drive health system quality and performance in Australia. However, CHF has concerns about some aspects of the Bill, outlined in our submission. This submission largely replicates our earlier submission on this Bill to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing, as none of the concerns raised previously were addressed in the earlier Committee process.

CHF would welcome the opportunity to expand on these comments at a public hearing.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any aspects of this submission further.

Yours sincerely

Carol Bennett
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER