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CHIEF MINISTER

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Senator Zed Seselja
Committee Chair
Standing Committee on Community Affairs – Legislation Committee
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Dear Senator Seselja

Thank you for your email of 18 September 2014 inviting written submissions for the Inquiry into the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2014.

I appreciate the opportunity to review the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2014 (Bill). Our understanding is that the purpose of the Bill is to amend the *Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Act 2006* (ASADA Act) to align with the revised World Anti-Doping Agency Code (WADA Code) and International Standards that will come into force from 1 January 2015.

We recognise that the main objective of changes to the WADA Code is to provide improved practices to fight doping in sport. As a signatory to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s *International Convention against Doping in Sport*, I understand the Australian Government is committed to implement conditions imposed under the WADA Code.

The ACT Government is fully supportive of, and active in, the fight against doping in sport, and condemns doping as fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport. With this in mind, the ACT Government supports amendments to the ASADA Act that will enhance ASADA's ability to drive pure performance in sport and protect Australia's sporting integrity through the elimination of doping in sport.

Under the ASADA Act, all national sporting organisations must implement anti-doping policies that are approved by ASADA and comply with the mandatory provisions of the WADA Code and International Standards.

The Territory will continue to maintain regular communication with ASADA, through Sport and Recreation Services and the ACT Academy of Sport, to assist ASADA's efforts to ensure national sporting organisations, as well as their state/territory associations, fully conform with the revised ASADA Act.

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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We will consult with the ACT Government Solicitor's Office in due course regarding the Bill and any action required by the Territory to comply with the proposed amendments.

Yours sincerely

Katy Gallagher MLA
Chief Minister

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