

Naomi Bleeser Committee Secretary Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
Department of the Senate PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Australia

Email:

5 March 2010

Dear Ms Bleeser

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 and Healthcare Identifiers (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010.

Unfortunately, due to the limited time for comments and other competing priorities we have not been able to make a specific submission on the Bills. However, I am forwarding you the joint submission from the Council of Social Service (COSS) network regarding the Exposure Draft of the Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010. This submission was made on behalf of the Councils of Social Service nationally and in each state and territory.

This submission identifies the key principles to underpin the development of an e-health system, including healthcare identifiers (HIs). It also makes some specific comments in relation to the exposure draft legislation; although we recognise that some of these concerns may have been addressed in the final Bill currently before Parliament.

We are happy for the submission to be made publicly available; it will be available also via the various Councils of Social Service.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback. If you require any further information or assistance, please me on 02 9211 2599 ext. 130 or .

Yours Sincerely

Solange Frost
Senior Policy Officer (Health) 5 March 2010