

privatized healthcare has been a failed experiment. This bill seeks to dismantle the laissez-faire free market capitalism that re-privatized healthcare was built on.

surgeons are increasingly coding routine procedures and patients as experimental and complex in order to siphon the maximum billings from health funds and patients as possible. this practice causes patients to end up with worthless private health insurance anyway that the health fund will refuse to fund nullifying the value of private health insurance. I would recommend creating a criminal offense for refusing to provide a written quote for a procedure or practice and including all written quotes including those not performed to also be reported under this act.

the stated goals of the bill are to:

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The objects of this Part are:

(a) to improve the transparency of costs associated with the rendering of professional services; and

(b) to promote efficient access to those services; and

(c) to help people make informed decisions about health care.

This isn't a community nursing problem so the selected committee is inappropriate and it should be referred to the Minister responsible for the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. the ongoing problem being avoided is health practitioners acting as unregulated insurance brokers. I myself have experienced and witnessed the practice of medical doctors selling private health insurance, promising that the insurance policy will subsidize a specific procedure that a patient has elected to undergo or is advised to undergo at the behest of the medical doctor when the insurance policy specifically excludes the procedure or branch of practice. I've witnessed medical doctors threaten to withhold treatment unless the patient signs up for a health insurance policy or suggest that a routine practice is only available through private health insurance when it is actually offered as fully funded medicare billing item or is not available through any private health insurance policy. The AMA fights tooth and

nail to avoid health professionals being recognized as fiduciaries or having any fiduciary responsibility toward their patients. This is a matter that requires referral to the IBCCC and ASIC as health professionals languish and degenerate into street hawkers under their own insufficient regulators.

Robert Heron