



3 March 2017  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Sent by email: [community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au)

To whom it may concern,

**Re: Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2016 Measures No.1) Bill 2016**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Therapeutic Goods Amendment (2016 Measures No.1) Bill 2016* (Cth).

We are writing in support of the submission made by the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) and the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA).

ACON is New South Wales' leading health promotion organisation specialising in HIV prevention, HIV support and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) health. Established in 1985 as the AIDS Council of NSW, our mission is to enhance the health and wellbeing of our communities by ending HIV transmission among gay and homosexually active men, and promoting the lifelong health of LGBTI people and people with HIV.

We acknowledge the competing priorities that the Therapeutic Goods Administration must balance to ensure that new medicines and devices are approved in a timely way, yet also to safeguard the health of the Australian community by ensuring that medicines and devices are safe. The proposed amendment will allow the TGA greater scope to adjust its processes to meet its objectives and it is our position that these recommendations are appropriate.

We would like to emphasise from the AFAO and NAPWHA submissions two key points: Consumer input into these processes are essential and improving opportunities for public stakeholders to participate will improve transparency and accountability. Secondly, the opportunity for fast-tracking certain applications will have a positive impact on our organisation's ability to meet our goals and targets, including those set through Government strategies.

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to this consultation, should you wish to discuss these matters any further, please don't hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
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