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Senate Community Affairs Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By Email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

**Submission Re: Healthcare Identifiers Bill 2010 and Healthcare Identifiers
(Consequential Amendments) Bill 2010**

The Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA) represents Health Information Management professionals who are qualified specialists in the areas of health data collection and reporting, health records management (both electronic and manual), activity-based funding management, patient privacy and information integration across the health care continuum. Our professionals work in a variety of health care settings and sectors including hospitals, primary health services and regulatory bodies.

HIMAA has provided input to the development of the above Bills via previous submissions to the Department of Health and Ageing and welcomes this opportunity to reiterate to this committee its position regarding this matter.

HIMAA supports the establishment of a national system of healthcare identification for consumers and providers that protects and respects their privacy through sound information management practices and information technology infrastructure, appropriate regulatory arrangements and a focus on high quality standards. HIMAA acknowledges that National Healthcare Identifiers are crucial to the successful implementation of a national e-health system.

Yours faithfully,

Vicki Bennett
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National President
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