TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition is in support of Nurse Practitioners working in the Primary Care setting.

The signatories below wish to draw to the attention of the House of Representatives the issue of the future sustainability of Nurse Practitioners working to provide Primary care to the wider community. Currently Nurse Practitioners in Primary care have access to four MBS item numbers from which to claim as rebates. These item numbers are for consultation only and do not include access to DVA, TAC, Work Cover, or rebates for such things as for Health Management Plans, general procedures, referrals to Allied Health professionals and the completion of advanced care directives. If there is no change made to the current MBS access for Nurse Practitioners, this will significantly challenge the future sustainability of Nurse Practitioners in primary care therefore impacting on the health outcomes of those consumers.

The signatories below request the House of Representatives to consider that Nurse Practitioners have access to the same MBS item numbers as Medical Practitioners. Currently Medical Practitioners receive 100% MBS rebate. The signatories are requesting that Nurse Practitioners receive 85% of the same MBS rebates as Medical Practitioners.