



Rural Doctors Association of Australia appears at Canberra Public Hearing for Overseas Trained Doctors Inquiry

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing will hold a public hearing on Tuesday 31 May 2011 to discuss the registration processes and support available for Overseas Trained Doctors (OTD's) seeking full Australian registration. In particular, ways to remove impediments and promote pathways for OTD's to achieve full Australian qualification, particularly in regional areas, without lowering the necessary standards required by colleges and regulatory bodies will be explored.

The Committee will hear from representatives of the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA), which represents the interests of rural medical practitioners. The RDAA believes that Australia needs to develop a sustainable medical workforce. Until this can be achieved, a coordinated, national approach to providing appropriate initial and ongoing assessment, training, support, and supervision for OTDs should be implemented.

Chair of the Committee, Mr Steve Georganas MP said, "Overseas Trained Doctors represent a significant part of Australia's regional and rural workforce. Without them, many smaller communities would have reduced access to crucial medical services. This hearing will provide the Committee with an opportunity to hear how Australia can build a more sustainable medical workforce."

PROGRAM

12:00pm - 12:30pm **Rural Doctors Association of Australia**

The hearing will be held in **Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra - Tuesday 31 May 2011.**

The hearing will be webcast live on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>.

All are welcome to attend

For media comment, please contact the Chair of the Committee, Mr Steve Georganas by phone on 0437 387 378 or Ms Hannah Frank on 0419 849 048.

For all other enquiries, please contact the Committee Secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/haa.