

The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

Mr Graham Perrett Chair Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Po Box 6021 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Perrett

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to the Inquiry into Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is a significant emerging issue which requires a consistent and cohesive approach to the prevention, intervention and management of FASD across sectors. Hence I welcome this initiative.

The number of varying policies/guidelines, resources and services available to those affected by FASD across Government and non Government agencies in NSW are of particular concern. I recommend that the Inquiry identifies strategies to support a consistent and cohesive national approach to the management of FASD.

It is also recommended that the Inquiry focus on the needs of population groups who are at greater risk of FASD such as women of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin as well as review the need for appropriate information/education campaigns for all women of childbearing age.

Please find attached the Ministry of Health submission which proposes some foci for investigation in each key area of service delivery.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Jillian Skinner, MP

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