

SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE

INQUIRY INTO AGED CARE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

On 23 June 2004 the Senate referred the following matters to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 September 2004.

On 1 December 2004 the Senate agreed to the Committee's recommendation that the reference, not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament, be re-adopted with a reporting date of 23 June 2005.

- (a) the adequacy of current proposals, including those in the 2004 Budget, in overcoming aged care workforce shortages and training;
- (b) the performance and effectiveness of the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency in:
 - (i) assessing and monitoring care, health and safety,
 - (ii) identifying best practice and providing information, education and training to aged care facilities, and
 - (iii) implementing and monitoring accreditation in a manner which reduces the administrative and paperwork demands on staff;
- (c) the appropriateness of young people with disabilities being accommodated in residential aged care facilities and the extent to which residents with special needs, such as dementia, mental illness or specific conditions are met under current funding arrangements;
- (d) the adequacy of Home and Community Care programs in meeting the current and projected needs of the elderly; and
- (e) the effectiveness of current arrangements for the transition of the elderly from acute hospital settings to aged care settings or back to the community.

Written submissions are invited and should be addressed to:

**The Secretary
Senate Community Affairs References Committee
Suite S1 59
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600**

The Committee will continue to receive submissions for the inquiry.

The Committee prefers to receive submissions electronically as an attached document - email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Submissions become Committee documents and are made public only after a decision by the Committee. Persons making submissions must not release them without the approval of the Committee. Submissions are covered by parliamentary privilege but the unauthorised release of them is not.

Following consideration of submissions, the Committee will hold public hearings. The Committee will consider all submissions and may invite individuals and organisations to give evidence at the public hearings.

Information relating to Senate Committee inquiries, including notes to assist in the preparation of submissions for a Committee, can be located on the internet at

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/wit_sub/index.htm

For further details contact the Committee Secretary, Phone: (02) 6277 3515, Fax: (02) 6277 5829. E-mail: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au