

Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism and Trade

Member for Kurrajong

Mr Peter Cain MLA

Chair

Standing Council on Legal Affairs (Legislative Scrutiny Role)

ACT Legislative Assembly

GPO Box 1020

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Cain

Thank you for Scrutiny Report No. 1 of January 2025. I offer the following response to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs (Legislative Scrutiny Role) comments on the *COAG Legislation Amendment Bill 2024* (the Bill).

The Committee expressed concern that the proposed transitional provisions in the Bill to the *Health (National Health Funding Pool and Administration) Act 2013* and *Utilities Act 2000* may operate retrospectively to potentially affect rights or interests of individuals affected by the activities of the substituted bodies.

The transitional provisions have been included in the Bill to ensure any decisions made by the Council of Australian Government (COAG), the National Cabinet or the National Federation Reform Council (NFRC), as well as the Standing Council or any Ministerial Council Meetings have effect after the Act commences and can be finalised. The transitional provisions do not give any additional powers to, or alter the intent of, the relevant Acts. Transitional provisions are commonly used to ensure government business is not disrupted as laws change. There is no intention that the rights or interests of individuals be affected by these provisions.

I thank the Committee for its consideration of the Bill.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

30 January 2025

