



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Health

Reference: Health – Canberra Health Services

Hearing: 20 February 2025

In relation to: Health – Change in fee services

Question received: 24 February 2025

Answer Due: 03 March 2025

I understand the latest Visiting Medical Officer contract negotiations occurred last year.

1. Was the move from fee-for-service to sessional arrangements that was announced recently brought up during those negotiations?

MINISTER FOR HEALTH: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Australian Medical Association (AMA), supported by the Visiting Medical Officers Association (VMOA), sought the inclusion of a provision which would give a Visiting Medical Officer a choice of payment terms such as the right to choose between a sessional or a fee-for-service contract.

This claim was opposed by the Territory on the basis that it must have the capacity to decide on the type of contract offered based on operational needs and the efficient delivery of health services and as such the Territory must be free to make a contract offer that reflects value for money.

The arbitrator rejected the AMA claim.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

Date:

313/25

By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith