

Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA



Member for Kurrajong

Minister for Community Services and Social Inclusion
Minister for Disability, Children and Youth
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations

Ms Elizabeth Lee

Chair - Standing Committee on Justice and
Community Safety (Legislative Scrutiny Role)
ACT Legislative Assembly
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Lee

I am writing to provide a response to Scrutiny Report 19, dated 24 July 2018, which raises concerns in relation to the Senior Practitioner Bill 2018 (the Bill).

As requested by the Committee, the Explanatory Statement for the Bill has been revised to include:

- Further justification for the senior practitioner's broad investigatory powers, which may limit the individual's right to privacy and reputation, right to a fair trial, right to privilege against self-incrimination enshrined under the *Human Rights Act 2004*.
- Clarification regarding the appropriate use of section 27(3), which enables a guideline made by the senior practitioner to 'apply, adopt or incorporate an instrument, as in force from time to time.'

I have attached a copy of the Revised Explanatory Statement for the Bill for your information.

The amended Bill is scheduled for debate in the Legislative Assembly on 2 August 2018.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA

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