



Ms Tasmin Anspach
Chair
South Australian Rainbow Advocacy Alliance
Email: info@saraa.org.au

Dear Ms Anspach

Thank you for contacting me on behalf of the South Australian Rainbow Advocacy Alliance (SARAA) regarding the Hon Frank Pangallo's motion proposing a Parliamentary Inquiry into gender dysphoria in South Australia. I acknowledge your concerns regarding this matter.

As the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, it is my view that medical decisions should be made by doctors, not by politicians.

Doctors are a tightly regulated profession and are responsible to their employer; their clinical governance; their College; their professional guidelines and ethics; and the National and State Medical Boards' codes, guidelines, and policies. Doctors making decisions regarding the treatment of their patients are also legally responsible.

A similar committee proposal has been defeated three times in the Federal Senate.

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP), as the peak professional body for doctors in this area, has recommended against a parliamentary inquiry, stating:

"The RACP notes that there are substantial dangers posed by some of the proposals that have been put forward during the recent public debate on this issue, such as holding a national inquiry into the issue.

"A national inquiry would not increase the scientific evidence available regarding gender dysphoria but would further harm vulnerable patients and their families through increased media and public attention."

As you may be aware, the New South Wales Government has engaged the Sax Institute, an independent health policy group, to review the national and international scientific literature, research and evidence on gender care. I understand that the report is expected in coming months. The outcome of this review will be considered by SA Health.

Once again, thank you for contacting me about this important matter. I trust this information is of assistance to you and SARAA.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Picton', written over a blue circular scribble.

Chris Picton MP
Minister for Health and Wellbeing

17 / 6 / 2024