



AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

MEDIA RELEASE

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NATIONAL HEALTHCARE REFORM

Statement by Mr Peter Anderson, Chief Executive

Today's announcement of a new national health and hospital funding framework signals a significant reform to Commonwealth / State financial relationships in an area of service delivery that warrants national co-ordination given the significant call on Commonwealth funds and future GST revenues.

“Whether health services are delivered by the Commonwealth, States or regions, it is in the interest of taxpayers for those being funded and delivering these services to have their funding tied to efficiency in service delivery.”

The business community contributes significantly to Commonwealth revenues that fund health and other community services. The establishment of the National Health and Hospital Network, while a difficult political task, holds the prospect of bringing structure and greater accountability to the call on taxpayer funds.

Raising business or personal taxes at a State or Commonwealth level to fund health services would be damaging to the economy. Rather we should look to fund our current and future health needs through revenues from a growing economy, through incentives for private coverage and through efficiencies in service delivery and reduced duplication in the public and private systems.

For further information:

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