

OVERSEAS-QUALIFIED PSYCHIATRISTS — STATE SOLICITOR’S ADVICE

**915. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Attorney General:**

- (1) On what date did the State Solicitor’s Office advise the Minister for Mental Health that the operation of the Mental Health Act precludes a medical practitioner with limited registration from performing the functions of a psychiatrist under the Mental Health Act and that only those psychiatrists with specialist registration are able to perform these functions?
- (2) Was this advice provided at the request of the Minister for Mental Health or for some other reasons; and, if so, what were those other reasons?
- (3) Will the Attorney General table any written advice on this matter, including any briefing notes provided by his office or the State Solicitor; and, if not, why not?

**Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) A search of the State Solicitor’s Office’s records does not show any such advice to the Minister for Mental Health.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Not applicable, although it should be noted that as a matter of practice the state does not waive legal professional privilege.