



Sub (10)

23 January 2009

Education and Health Standing Committee  
Parliament House  
Perth  
Western Australia 6000

Dear Dr Woolard,

**INQUIRY INTO THE TOBACCO PRODUCTS CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL 2008**

I am writing to give full support for the Private Members' Bill, introduced by Dr Janet Woolard, on behalf of the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on Children's Environmental Health.

Although there have been encouraging trends in the incidence of smoking related illness, smoking remains our largest preventable cause of death and disease. Children are particularly susceptible to the adverse effects of smoking and there is an urgent need for action to protect children, other non-smokers and quitters.

The tobacco legislation in Western Australia now lags behind other states and we believe that this Bill will address this issue. The changes proposed in regard to smoking around children in cars, smoking in al fresco eating areas, smoking in other specified public places and displays in tobacco retail outlets are all feasible and are likely to have a positive impact on the health of Western Australians.

I believe there is strong public support for all these measures and wish to reiterate my support for this excellent legislation.

Yours sincerely

Professor Peter Sly MBBS MD DSc FRACP  
Head, Division of Clinical Sciences, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research  
Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on Children's Environmental Health

WHO Collaborating Centre for Research  
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