



Our ref: 9-28465

ATTORNEY GENERAL

MINISTER FOR HEALTH; ELECTORAL AFFAIRS

FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Ms Mia Betjeman
Clerk Assistant (Committees)
Legislative Council
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Betjeman

Thank you for your letter of 31 August 2004 attaching a copy of the Report of the Standing Committee on Uniform Legislation and General Purposes in Relation to Uniform Legislation and Supporting Documentation (Report 19) (August 2004).

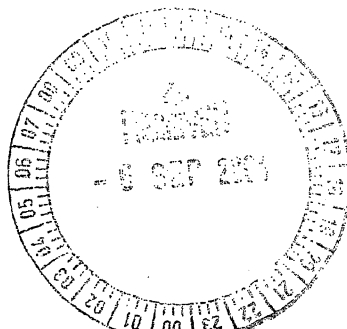
I have noted the matters in your letter and the Report and, in particular, the Committee's three recommendations:

Recommendation 1: The Committee recommends that the Government ensure that a Premier's Circular is issued in the form attached as Appendix 7 to this report as soon as possible.

Recommendation 2: The Committee recommends that all government departments and agencies amend their procedural documentation to alert staff to the requirements of the Premier's Circular referred to in Recommendation 1.

Recommendation 3: The Committee recommends that until such time as a Premier's Circular is issued all government departments and agencies amend their procedural documentation to include reference to the matters raised in the draft circular attached as Appendix 7 to this report.

In this context, the Draft Premier's Circular (in appendix 7 - pp 57-60), if adopted, would require, as a matter of policy, for example, that Second Reading Speeches introducing a Bill to implement uniform legislation must refer to the fact that the Bill is pursuant to such uniform legislation and outline the relevant inter-governmental agreement or memorandum pursuant to which the Bill is introduced as well as, for example, providing the above Committee with a copy of minutes of the Ministerial Council Meeting at which it was agreed to introduce the model legislation.



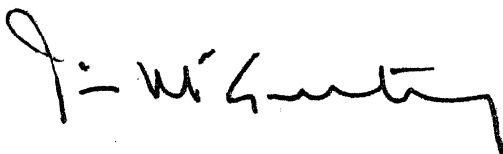
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I am a member of several Commonwealth/State/Territory ministerial councils, including the Standing Committee of Attorneys' General and the Australian Health Ministers' Conference and have made reference to the appropriate ministerial committee when introducing legislation and providing material to parliamentary committees. However, your letter correctly indicates the implementation of Recommendation 1 is a matter for the Premier. Therefore, other than forwarding a copy of this letter to the persons noted below, I do not propose to provide, at this stage, any further comments on the Committee's recommendations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

JIM MCGINTY MLA
ATTORNEY GENERAL
MINISTER FOR HEALTH; ELECTORAL AFFAIRS

cc Mr Alan Piper, Director General Department of Justice
Mr Mike Daube, Director General Department of Health

02 SEP 2004