



Australian Self-Medication Industry Inc
Suite 2202, Level 22, 141 Walker Street,
North Sydney NSW 2060
PO Box 764, North Sydney NSW 2059
Ph +61 2 9922 5111 Fax +61 2 9959 3693
Email: info@asmi.com.au www.asmi.com.au
ABN 55 082 798 952

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Regulatory Burdens Review
Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Review

The Australian Self-Medication Industry represents the interests of sponsors of non-prescription medicines. We estimate that our member-companies' combined turnover is about \$3bn/year.

ASMI is concerned that the regulation of the medicines industry is seen as a health and safety issue alone. It is, however, also a business regulation matter.

Over the last two years, the Government has secured passage of four "reform" Bills to amend the Therapeutic Goods Act. In truth, the changes brought about are quite minimal. In many cases, the reasonable proposed advanced by ASMI to improve the changes have been summarily dismissed.

One such proposal was that, in respect of new arrangements for scheduling of medicines, COAG principles should be required to apply, including risk/benefit analysis. This proposal was not agreed to.

While ASMI recognises that the industry sectors under Commission review do not include the medicines industry, we ask you to note this industry's continuing concerns. We ask that the Productivity Commission do what it can to ensure that the Government refers this sector for early and sceptical review.

Yours sincerely

Juliet Seifert
Executive Director



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