



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Inquiry into the Promotion of False and Misleading Health-related Information or Practices**

The NSW Parliamentary Committee on the Health Care Complaints Commission has tabled its report on the *Inquiry into the Promotion of False and Misleading Health-related Information or Practices*.

Chair of the Committee, the Hon. Don Page MP has said: “This report is the culmination of a year-long process that examined the individuals and organisations that publish information or promote treatments of a purportedly medical nature that not only deviate substantially from an accepted range of practice, but which may be damaging and dangerous to individual and public health.”

Mr Page continued: “The Committee gave particular regard as to whether there has been sufficient oversight and regulation of these individuals that mislead the public”.

The Committee made a total of eight recommendations. These recommendations include giving the Health Care Complaints Commission (the Commission) additional powers to investigate matters of public concern, extending the circumstances in which the Commission is able to issue public warnings, and for more to be done to ensure healthcare consumers are aware of the risks and consequences in following the advice of certain organisations.

“The recommendations included in the report are aimed at bolstering consumer protections and ensuring that the healthcare market is not crowded by rogue operators” Mr Page further advised.

This is the fifth and final report of the Committee for this Parliament.

For media comment, please contact Don Page on (02) 6686 7522. Further information about the Inquiry process, including the final report, can be obtained by visiting the Committee’s webpage at <http://parliament.nsw.gov.au/healthcarecomplaints> or by contacting Mr Jason Arditi, Inquiry Manager, on (02) 9230 2096.

21 November 2014

-ENDS-