

21 June 2021

Committee Secretariat  
Health Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

Submitted online

**Drug and Substance Checking Legislation Bill (No 2)**

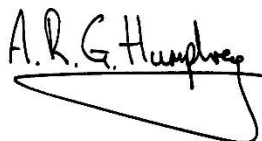
Dear Committee Members

The New Zealand Medical Association (NZMA) wishes to submit on the above Bill. The NZMA is New Zealand's largest medical organisation, with about 5,000 members from all areas of medicine. The NZMA aims to provide leadership of the medical profession, and to promote professional unity and values, and the health of all New Zealanders. Our submission has been informed by feedback from our Board and Advisory Councils.

We note that this omnibus Bill amends the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975, the Psychoactive Substances Act 2013, and the Medicines Act 1981 to allow drug and substance checking services to operate with legal certainty. The NZMA is strongly supportive of this Bill. We believe that drug and substance checking at events and festivals is an important harm reduction strategy.

We are not seeking an oral hearing.

Yours sincerely



Dr Alistair Humphrey  
NZMA Chair