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Government
Health

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Competition Policy Review Secretariat
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

SUBMISSION – DRAFT REPORT COMPETITION POLICY REVIEW

Thank you for your letter of 27 October 2014 inviting feedback on the recommendations from the *Competition Policy Review Draft Report* (Draft Report).

Governments have an important role to play in reducing alcohol related harm given the substantial health, social and economic costs to the community of alcohol use such as chronic disease, illness, injury, crime, violence and family relationship breakdown.

ACT Health has concerns about any changes to Competition Policy that could restrict governments' capacity to implement evidence based policy to reduce this alcohol related harm.

- 1. Removing restrictions related to planning and zoning for alcohol outlets (Recommendation 10):** ACT Health would have concerns about any changes to Competition Policy that could restrict the capacity of Governments to reduce alcohol related harm by restricting or freezing liquor licence application or late night liquor licenses.
- 2. Deregulating retail trading hours (Recommendation 51):** ACT Health would have concerns about any changes to Competition Policy that could restrict the capacity of Governments to reduce alcohol related harm by restrictions on trading hours when alcohol can be sold.

Yours sincerely

Dr Peggy Brown MBBS (Hons) FRANZCP
Director-General
ACT Health

21/11/14