

Dear Dr Willyman

Thank you for your emails I received on 5 and 7 March 2019 regarding the proposed McGowan Labor Government's 'No Jab, No Play' immunisation bill.

I note your concerns about this proposed legislation.

The State Liberal Opposition supports measures to maximise immunisation rates. Immunisation has been widely accepted as one of the safest and most effective ways to protect populations from harmful and contagious diseases. For instance, smallpox was eradicated in 1980 following a vaccination campaign led by the World Trade Organisation.

The State Liberal Opposition understands that some people hold strong personal views about this matter and have concerns about vaccines. We are advised that all vaccines currently available must pass stringent safety testing prior to being approved by the Australian Government's Therapeutic Goods Administration.

I am advised the WA State Government's proposed 'No Jab, No Play' immunisation bill will bring Western Australia in line with other states such as Victoria and New South Wales.

The State Liberal Opposition understands this approach sends a clear signal to the community about the importance of immunisation in promoting a healthy community and avoiding the spread of preventable diseases.

Notwithstanding the above, the State Liberal Opposition will review all of the clauses in the Bill once it has been tabled in Parliament by the Labor Government.

With regards to specific questions about the formation of the bill itself, as this is being introduced by the Minister for Health, you may wish to direct your line of questioning to him. I have included the Minister's contact details below:

Hon Roger Cook MLA
Minister for Health
(08) 6552 6500
minister.cook@dpc.wa.gov.au

I hope this information is helpful

Yours sincerely



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