From: <u>Jones, Alison (Health)</u>
To: <u>criminal history consult</u>

Cc: Snook, Amanda (Health); Richards, Jill (Health)

Subject: Public consultation on international criminal history checks - response from SA

Date: Monday, 28 October 2013 1:48:44 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.jpg</u>

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this consultation paper.

We have consulted with our stakeholders and have the following comments to make.

- 1. The proposed option number 5 has considerable merit.
- 2. The benefits are that this covers potential fraudulent activity, is fair to all concerned and does not increase the cost of running AHPRA. It is the only way in which all Australian jurisdictions, health units etc. can be reassured of a clear criminal background of the doctors in their service
- 3. A problem with all of the options is that they still require applicants to declare that they have lived in another country. If they do not declare, then no checks will be done. So if an applicant had committed a serious crime in one country, but migrated from a different country, then they could, by not declaring the country where the crime was committed, get around the law. A partial solution is to require all IMGs and applicants who have acquired Australian residency (TR, PR) or citizenship other than by birth, to undergo a check at time of initial and/or reregistration from the country they have emigrated from.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further input.

Regards

Alison Jones

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releasing a public consultation on international criminal history checks.

You are invited to provide feedback to National Boards on the attached consultation paper on a proposal to refine international criminal history checks for applicants for registration who have lived overseas. All 14 National Boards in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) are participating in further public consultation on this issue.

Consultation is an important part of the National Boards' engagement with registered health practitioners, members of the public and other stakeholders. The feedback provided is greatly valued, and informs the Boards' development of these important documents.

Feedback on the consultation document will generally be published, unless you request otherwise, although the Boards have discretion not to publish submissions. Please let the Boards know if you do not want your submission published, or want all or part of it treated as confidential.

Please provide feedback by email to criminalhistoryconsult@ahpra.gov.au by close of business on 31 October 2013.

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
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