

FACT SHEET

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS REGISTRATION (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 2009

The *Health Professionals Registration (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2009* amends each of the health professional registration Acts in Tasmania, namely:

- *Chiropractors and Osteopaths Registration Act 1997*
- *Dental Practitioners Registration Act 2001*
- *Dental Prosthetists Registration Act 1996*
- *Medical Practitioners Registration Act 1996*
- *Medical Radiation Science Professionals Registration Act 2000*
- *Nursing Act 1995*
- *Optometrists Registration Act 1994*
- *Pharmacists Registration Act 2001*
- *Physiotherapists Registration Act 1999*
- *Podiatrists Registration Act 1995*
- *Psychologists Registration Act 2000*

In each case, the amendment will provide a board member with an opportunity to serve one additional term on a registration board in anticipation of the transition to the new National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for Health Professions (the National Scheme) that is scheduled to commence on 1 July 2010.

The National Scheme is to be established by a law of the Queensland Parliament (the national law). It is anticipated that Tasmania will pass legislation applying that law as a law of this State.

Under the national law, a person serving as a member of a State or Territory board immediately prior to the commencement of the National Scheme, continues to serve as a member of the national board.

The Bill prevents a situation where a member's term expires and they are ineligible for reappointment to a Tasmanian board. This will ensure continuity of skill and experience during the transition to the National Scheme.