

LABOUR RELATIONS REFORM BILL, MEDICAL RECORDS

**1149. Mr BOARD to the Minister for Health:**

I refer the minister to part 8 of the Labour Relations Reform Bill 2001, which allows unions to access an individual's confidential medical records.

- (1) Will the minister confirm that the Australian Medical Association expressed concern over this issue to both the Minister for Health and the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection?
- (2) Will the minister also confirm that, despite these concerns, the Government will not amend that clause of the legislation to protect the privacy of individuals?
- (3) Does the minister support unions having access to confidential medical records?

**Mr KUCERA replied:**

- (1)-(3) That is not a matter for my portfolio. The question would be more properly addressed to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection.