

From: [REDACTED]
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Code of Conduct for Australian Doctors - Freedom of Speech
Date: Sunday, 29 July 2018 9:19:40 PM

Dear Minister,

After reading MirandaDivine's article in today's paper, I am writing as a member of the public concerned by the news about the Medical Board introducing new measures into the Code of Conduct for Australian Doctors that will restrict the most basic right of all Australians - the right to have their say on things they think are important. And we were shocked by the way the Queensland GP, Dr van Gend, was accused of discriminatory conduct just for forwarding a couple of tweets about the transgender issue. Is the Board acting like some sort of thought police now?

We accept the Board has an important role in making sure doctors are properly trained and safe to practise, but as members of the public we do not see any role for the Board in censoring doctors' opinions.

Please ensure there are no changes to the Code of Conduct that allow activists who feel "offended" by a doctor's political views to drag them through a complaints process. That would be an abuse of the Board's role.

Yours faithfully,
Margaret Ann Condon,

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