



## Leader of the Opposition

Mr George Tambassis  
National President  
The Pharmacy Guild of Australia  
Level 2, Pharmacy Guild House  
15 National Circuit  
Barton ACT 2600

Dear George

Given developments since our last letter in March, we write to reiterate Labor's strong support for community pharmacy and thank you for the close and constructive relationship we have established over the past six years.

A Shorten Labor Government will work with you and your members collaboratively on the development of the 7th Community Pharmacy Agreement and its implementation.

Labor was surprised and disappointed by the Liberals' recent attempt to double the prescription volume of common drugs without any consultation with the Guild. Regardless of the competing views on this proposal, seeking to implement it during the term of the 6th CPA without discussion with the Guild is demonstrably against the letter and spirit of that Agreement.

This has not been Labor's approach to policy development or the way we have developed relationships with valued stakeholders like the Guild. We can assure you that this collaborative approach, focussed on consensus, would be the same one applied by a Labor Government.

In terms of the Agreement itself, a Labor Government will approach negotiations to the 7th CPA in good faith. And crucially, Labor will honour the Agreement it strikes - as the Guild has said, that is a matter of trust.

We look forward to working with you if elected at this Saturday's election.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bill Shorten'.

Bill Shorten  
Leader of the Opposition  
Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs and  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Catherine King'.

Catherine King  
Shadow Minister for Health and Medicare

14 May 2019