



Hon Steven Miles MP
Minister for Health and
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26 APR 2019

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Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition numbers 3071-19 and 3107-19, tabled in Parliament on 26 March 2019, in relation to pill testing. As these petitions are similar in nature, I have taken the liberty of responding to both petitions in this letter. I therefore ask that this response be noted against each petition.

The Queensland Government recognises the health and safety risks posed to young people from using illicit drugs, such as ecstasy, in music festival environments. I acknowledge that there are many complex factors that influence illicit drug use, and efforts to reduce drug-related harms need to be comprehensive, multi-faceted and coordinated.

The Queensland Government is considering the findings from the implementation of the first pill testing trial in Australia, conducted at the Groovin the Moo festival in Canberra in April 2018. The Queensland Government will actively monitor the implementation and results of further pill testing programs as they are implemented, including the second Canberra trial in April 2019. The Australian Capital Territory will also report to the COAG Health Ministers Council on the outcomes of the two pill testing trials.

The Queensland Government supports a range of initiatives to reduce the supply, demand and harms from substance use including legislation, law enforcement activity, social marketing and public awareness campaigns and information, and early intervention and specialist treatment services. This includes a response to ice and other drug use as part of the \$105.5 million *Action on ice - The Queensland Government's plan to address use and harms caused by crystal methamphetamine*.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

STEVEN MILES MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services