



AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
(SOUTH AUSTRALIA) INC.
ABN 91 028 693 268

MEDIA STATEMENT

20 September 2023

AMA(SA) President Dr John Williams and CEO Ms Nicole Sykes met Treasurer Stephen Mulligan this afternoon to discuss the impact of a new payroll tax ruling and its implications for general practice, patients and the health system.

As is the case in the eastern states, the ruling comes through 'harmonisation' of individual state governments' interpretations of state-based payroll tax legislation.

General practices in South Australia have until 30 September 2023 to register for an amnesty in place until 30 June 2024.

The RevenueSA ruling can be found [here](#).

Comments from AMA(SA) President Dr John Williams follow:

'We appreciate the Treasurer meeting us and extending what was arranged on Monday as a 30-minute meeting.

'The extra time enabled the Treasurer to explain the context and reasons for this ruling as it applies to GPs. It gave us additional time to explain in detail the urgency of this issue and the real and devastating impacts this additional cost will have on GPs and general practice.

'In particular, and, most importantly, we outlined the effect on patients – patients who will have to pay more for GP appointments, discover those appointments are more difficult to obtain, and head to and add to the burden on our emergency departments.

'We also made clear the distress and anxiety being caused by the ambiguity of this new ruling – one that isn't clear even to specialist tax and financial lawyers and accountants.

'The Treasurer has committed to working with AMA(SA) to try and find a way through this.

'We welcome and appreciate his willingness to work with us, including his offer of possibly extending the deadline for registration for the amnesty.'

For more information or interview requests please contact Senior Policy and Communications Advisor Karen Phillips on 0402 103 451.