

Supporting Statement for election to Chair of AMA Federal Council.

Thank you for the welcome opportunity to apply for the vital role of Chair of AMA Federal Council. For the better part of the last 40 years the AMA has been an integral part of my professional life: as a long-standing President of the Northern Territory Branch; as a member of Federal Council, initially representing the NT and later Australia's paediatricians, and through a term on Executive Council.

My extensive corporate knowledge and longstanding support of what the AMA stands for makes me, I believe, well suited to this all-important position.

In addition to chairing many councils and committees myself, I have experienced several Federal Council Chairs over the decades. This gives me confidence that I have the qualities needed to ensure the continued effectiveness of the AMA Federal Council as the only truly independent voice for change in Australia's health system.

These qualities include a keen willingness to work effectively with the AMA Secretariate to ensure Council meetings run on time and with the ease that adequate preparation allows; inclusivity, so that *all* members feel their voices have been heard; communication skills to support the many relationships the role allows; pragmatism, authority, wide experience both clinically and nationally, and good humour.

While I continue in clinical practice, and in active support of younger doctors through my role as Director of Clinical Training, I am also undertaking a Master of Studies in Practical Ethics at Oxford University which would additionally support this key role.

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