

# Media Coverage

**Company:** AusBiotech  
**Date:** 7 December 2010  
**Publication:** topnews.us  
**Page:** Online

*Buchan*

Business Strategy | Communication | Public Policy

## **Submissions to Second Senate Gene Patent Inquiry to be Made Prior Feb' 25, 2011**

Olivia Conroy

The biotech and life sciences Companies are being urged by AusBiotech and Medicines Australia (MA) to make their submissions to the second senate Inquiry before the deadline of February 25, 2011.

These Companies are due to get affected by the proposed amendments to patenting legislation, as the legislation relates to genes and other biological materials.

The legislation which is a private members bill says that the patent protection for the 'biological materials which are identical or substantially identical to such materials as they exist in nature' should be denied.

AusBiotech and MA said "This [bill] would have far-reaching and possibly dire consequences for patient access, medical research and the biotechnology and medicines industry. AusBiotech and Medicines Australia strongly support the view that all Australians should have access to world-class medical science".

However it is likely that this bill might end up in potentially life-altering products simply never being developed. The two organizations too are said to have shown little trust in the bill saying that there would be little or no contribution on the commercial or research ground.

Also the Senate Community Affairs Committee is said to have released the results of its long-standing inquiry into gene patents last week.