

26 September 2025

Senator Dorinda Cox
Committee Chair
Community Affairs Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator Cox,

Re: *Australian Centre for Disease Control Bill 2025*

AusBiotech – the peak national representative body for Australia’s life science sector – strongly supports the establishment of the Australian Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and the *Australian Centre for Disease Control Bill 2025*

The COVID-19 pandemic, along with other recent public health emergencies such as bushfires, Mpox, and Japanese encephalitis, and the health implications of climate change, underscore the urgent need for a nationally coordinated, evidence-based authority to monitor, assess, and respond to health risks. Indeed, many AusBiotech members were directly involved in the response to those health emergencies through the supply of vaccines, diagnostics and other health products.

Being the only country in the OECD without a CDC or equivalent body, the Bill’s commitment to a permanent statutory body with a Director-General and Advisory Council is a critical and timely step in helping to strengthen Australia’s preparedness and resilience against future health crises.

We particularly commend the Bill’s emphasis on:

- Supporting collaboration across governments, health systems, and communities. AusBiotech notes that at the Federal Government-level alone nine different Departments have aspects of responsibility for the broader innovative health industry. Any coordination is therefore welcomed.
- Data-driven, evidence-based decision making and improving the current gaps in public health data; and
- Transparency and public trust in public health advice.

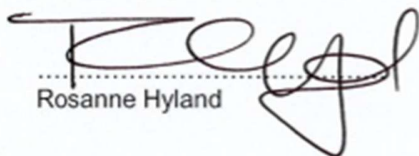
With regard to the proposed establishment of the Advisory Council or advisory groups that sit under the Council, we recommend that the Advisory Council include representation from the health innovation industry. Industry stakeholders bring vital expertise and innovative solutions, horizon scanning, specialised local and global supply chain knowledge and an understanding of health

manufacturing capability that are essential in public health emergency preparedness and response.

By embedding industry perspectives, the Australian CDC will be better positioned to deliver effective, timely and coordinated outcomes for the nation's health security.

AusBiotech stands ready to assist the committee in its consideration of the legislation and can be contacted at policy@ausbiotech.org should you wish to discuss the matter further.

Yours faithfully,



Rosanne Hyland

Deputy Chief Executive Officer