



## NHI Draft Bill Daily Analysis

The NHI Draft Bill was published in Government Gazette 41725 on 21 June 2018. The South African Private Practitioners' Forum will be sharing an analysis of the Draft NHI Bill with members, highlighting issues of importance and concern.

### NHI Draft Bill – Day 13 Excerpt from the Draft Bill

#### Stakeholder Advisory Committee

27. (1) The Minister may appoint a Stakeholder Advisory Committee comprised of the following:

(a) One representative each from -

- (i) the Health Professions Council of South Africa
- (ii) the South African Pharmacy Council
- (iii) the South African Nursing Council
- (iv) the Allied Health Professions Council
- (v) the Traditional Health Practitioners Council
- (vi) the Council for Medical Schemes
- (vii) the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority
- (viii) the South African Dental Technicians Council; and
- (ix) the South African Medical Research Council

(b) one representative from organised labour;

(c) one representative from organised business;

(d) two representatives from tertiary education institutions involved in the training of health care professionals;

(e) two representatives from health-related non -governmental organisations;

(f) two persons representing civil society or consumers in an official capacity; and

(g) one representative from any other organisation deemed advisable by the Minister.

(2) The Committee as established and constituted in subsection (1) must provide-

(c) comments and advice from a public and private health care provider perspective on the health service benefits offered by the Fund and the experience of health care providers, health establishments and suppliers in relation to the Fund;

### Analysis

It is highly concerning that healthcare professionals themselves are not represented as stakeholders in the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. Regulatory bodies such as the HPCSA and Nursing Council are not representative bodies for Healthcare professionals and there is thus no representation for Healthcare Professionals on this committee.

**The heads of these statutory bodies are all appointed by the Minister and therefore 9 of the 18 appointees on the committee answer directly to the minister in their daily employment function, leading to a severe lack of independence of members of this committee.**

There are 9 Regulatory Body Representatives, Labour, Business, Consumers, NGOs and Training institution representatives, but no Healthcare Providers representatives on this committee.

It is worrying that the committee must provide "comments and advice from a public and private health care provider perspective on the health service benefits", when there are no representatives from public or private healthcare on the committee to do so. There are also no representatives from the Medical Schemes or their administrators on this committee, similarly, the CMS is not a representative body for Medical Schemes, but a regulator.