

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

1<sup>st</sup> July 2009

### HEALTH - SUSPENSION OF DR MCGINITY

Mr Gutwein (Bass) - I want to raise a matter and I know that my colleague from Bass shares a similar interest in the matter regarding Dr McGinity. The Minister for Health might be interested in this if she would stop yelling across the Chamber –

Members interjecting.

Mr SPEAKER - Order. The Deputy Premier should cease her interjections and the member for Bass should also cease his interjections while his colleague who is also a member for Bass, who happens to be doing the right thing, is trying to address the Chamber.

Mr Gutwein - Thank you, Mr Speaker, and I am sure that the Minister for Health will be interested in this. I have just got off the phone from Mrs Anne McGinity who tells me that the situation with her husband is far from being resolved and, as of tomorrow, whilst Dr McGinity can still practise with a locum on the end of the phone, come Friday it is back to the previous situation where a locum will be required in his practice. He does not have a locum, so they are readying themselves, once again, for the practice to be shut down.

I just want to make the point that this is an outrageous situation and the Medical Council appears to be making it up as it goes along. We have a situation where first of all Dr McGinity was suspended, then he was reinstated after appeal, then he was suspended again, then he was reinstated and could practise if a locum was in attendance in his practice, and now he can practise if there is a locum on the end of the telephone and, as of Friday, he cannot practise unless he has a locum in attendance. This is just farcical. It is slowly destroying a very good family and at the same time it is creating enormous difficulties for the 3 000 patients that rely on Dr McGinity's services. I would ask the Minister for Health to get involved in this and find out what is going on, because quite frankly it is absolutely farcical. The McGinity's, the patients and the other affected people in the north east, deserve far better than what is being delivered to them at the moment.