



Local Municipality • Mmasepala wa seLehae • Plaaslike Munisipaliteit

ARTICLE

TO : Media
FROM : Media and Communications
DATE : September 2018
RE : Article to be published

PROVINCIAL HEALTH FOCUS ON LABORATORY BILL

On Wednesday, 19 September 2018, the Free State Provincial Legislature's Portfolio Committee under the stewardship of the Chairperson of the Social Services Committee Busisiwe Mapena alongside Thabo Mofutsanyana District Health and Maluti a Phofung as well as government health officials led the public hearing on National Health Laboratory Service Amendment Bill 2018 at Phuthaditjhaba Multipurpose Hall Embassy Hall in Qwa Qwa at 10h00.

The National Health Laboratory Service Amendment Bill 2018 aims to amend the National Health Laboratory Service Act, 2000, so as to define certain expression and to amend or delete certain definitions; to make the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000, applicable to the National Health Laboratory Service; as well as to adjust the objects and duties of the National Health Laboratory Service; and furthermore to strengthen the governance and funding mechanism of the National Health Laboratory Service; and to provide for matters connected therewith. Relevant stakeholders were also invited to attend the public hearing. Busisiwe Mapena explained "after this bill is amended the legislature must come to you as public and engage with you before it can be finalised".

Chief Executive Officer of Mofumahali Manapo Mopeli Regional Hospital Dr Balekile Mzagwa was amongst the district delegation present to take part in question and answers session about his directorate when he expressed "bana babo rona haba hlomphe mosebetsi, taba ena ya security se dulang sele siyo moo se lokelang hore bese eme teng ke tlhoba boroko hobane e qetella ele bona jwale ditsotsi" The issues such as mobile clinics and long queues as health sectors were also raised and ill treatment of patients and shortage of medication were amongst the worrying factor in some clinics in Setsoto District of Ficksburg which raised concerns with health officials within the province.



Local Municipality • Mmasepala wa seLehae • Plaaslike Munisipaliteit

Mapena pleaded with officials to show commitment in their respective working areas as some of them display signs of discouragement or negligence in their jobs “we must do justice to the salaries we earn every month by serving the people because they are our families, friends and neighbours”.

In conclusion Dr Setshego promised to working together with those who raised concerns and ensure that they do things right in servicing all clients “we are going to take all the complains raised here and make sure that we get back to our people to give them feedback,” he expressed. Hospitals were urged to practice Batho Pele Principles to ensure that the patients experience at health care centers are pleasant.

By: Masilo Malakwane