

## REVEAL THE FULL CONTENT OF PHARMACY BILL, GOVERNMENT TOLD

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysia Pharmacy Society (MPS) wants the Government to reveal the full content of the proposed Pharmacy Bill.

Its president Amrahi Buang (*pic*) said in a statement on Sunday (July 8) that the last official statement on the Bill was made in September 2017.

He said former health minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam had said that they were waiting for the Attorney General's Chambers approval before it could be tabled in Parliament.

It was also reported that the Bill had been redrafted to retain the system of allowing doctors and pharmacists to dispense medicine, Amrahi said.

"We hope the Government will reveal the remaining contents of the proposed Pharmacy Bill, which is still currently under the Official Secrets Act (OSA)," he said, adding that many would like to know more about the Bill and how it will affect them.

On Thursday (July 5), Health Minister Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said that the ministry currently does not have the power under the law to regulate the prices of drugs supplied in the private sector.

He said the ministry would be looking into the matter and would wait for the Pharmacy Bill.

The proposed Pharmacy Bill is an omnibus Bill meant to replace four pieces of legislature – the Registration of Pharmacists Act, Poisons Act, Sale of Drugs Act and Medicines (Advertisement and Sale) Act.

The Star was told that the Bill is now with the Health Ministry's legal section and will require a decision from the minister before it is tabled in Parliament.