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Carers NSW welcomes report on the Review of the NSW Mental Health Act

The pivotal role that carers play in the lives of people with mental illness has been highlighted in a report on the Review of the NSW *Mental Health Act 2007* which was tabled in NSW Parliament.

The report noted that carers are an 'integral part of the support system' for people with a mental illness and supported further consultation on the rights of the primary carer.

Elena Katrakis, CEO of Carers NSW said the *Mental Health Act* needs to underpin better recognition and support of carers in their role supporting the recovery of people with a mental illness.

"We are pleased that the report recommends further consultation on the rights of the primary carer."

"We hope that this will lead to greater inclusion and recognition of carers in the mental health system, so that they are in the best possible position to support the person with a mental illness, as well as having their own rights and wellbeing supported."

"We would like to see amendments to the rights of the primary carer under the Act, and a Statement of Carer Rights. This will help support greater awareness of the rights of carers under the legislation," Ms Katrakis said.

Carers NSW full submission to the Review, including detailed recommendations, is available on our website at: <http://www.carersnsw.org.au/how-we-help/policy/changing-systems/#Section3>

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