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### **HEALTHCARE (INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS) BILL**

I would like to reiterate my gratitude for your continued positive engagement with both myself and at official level in relation to the Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill.

I am writing to assist with the Welsh Assembly's legislative consent process by confirming that the Government will be tabling an amendment to the Bill for Report Stage in the House of Lords on 12 March 2019.

As we have previously discussed, this amendment will place a statutory duty on the UK Government to consult the Devolved Administrations (DAs) where regulations under Clause 2 of the Bill would be within the DA's legislative competence. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will underpin the amendment to the Bill, as agreed between the UK and Welsh Government. For ease of reference, I have attached these two documents as annexes.

The Government is committed to ensuring that arrangements will be conducive to the development of a reciprocal healthcare system that operates effectively across the whole of the UK and I look forward to continuing to work closely with you and at official level to achieve this.

I am copying this letter to the Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport and the Northern Ireland Permanent Secretary for the Department of Health.

*with best wishes*

**STEPHEN HAMMOND**