

### **ACT cools on wood heater ban**

The ACT government's backdown on combating wood heating pollution in our suburbs is a public and environmental health disgrace ("ACT cools on firm 2045 wood-fired heater ban for Canberra", September 5).

Despite being warned for decades about the serious health impacts from wood heater smoke, it has continually ignored the scientific and medical evidence and neglected vulnerable members of our community.

Leading environmental health researchers from Australian universities have told us as many as 63 people die prematurely in Canberra each year from exposure to wood heater smoke pollution.

If 63 people died every year on our roads the ACT government would take tough and immediate action, but the lives of those who suffer and die from exposure to wood heater pollution don't matter to this government.

It should be ashamed of itself.

**Darryl Johnston JP, Tuggeranong**