Submission No 50

HEALTH SERVICES AMENDMENT (SPLITTING OF THE HUNTER NEW ENGLAND HEALTH DISTRICT) BILL 2025

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 15 April 2025

Partially Confidential

During the wheat harvest of 2024, i was out delivering meals to my daughter's farm at **the second second**. I Came home to find my husband who is wheelchair bound, had fallen out of the wheelchair and was in a great deal of pain.

He had taken an hour to get himself up off the floor and back into the wheelchair.

I rang the Ambulance, and he was taken to Narrabri ED. We spent approximately 36 hours in ED having numerous tests done to determine any injuries. He was unable to be admitted to the ward because there were no beds available. He was then sent home and spent a week in bed, being cared for by myself.

He was unable to access the bathroom, had severe bruising and was in a great deal of pain. It is a partial paraplegic and amputee, has a stoma and catheter. During this week he had to be bed bathed. It is resilient, proud and independent person, this was all nearly too much for him. It is aged 81, a well-respected retired farmer and had paid his taxes and contributed to society, and now we feel we shouldn't be treated like second class citizens, with being unable to access a bed on a ward in our local hospital.