

**Submission
No 16**

**HEALTH SERVICES AMENDMENT (SPLITTING OF THE MURRUMBIDGEE
LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT) BILL 2025**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 6 November 2025

Partially
Confidential

I am 73 yrs old and have lived in Hanwood / Griffith all my life. It is very upsetting to see what once was a wonderful hospital, with full facilities be gradually but deliberately downgraded over the years. There were very few operations that couldn't be performed in the Griffith hospital. My mother had two mastectomies over the years and her recovery and physio were all provided within the hospital. These days she would have had to travel to Wagga Wagga or Sydney for the same treatment. Thus isolating her from family for weeks.

The hospital had a board made up of locals, who made decisions regarding the hospital. These decisions were made with a full knowledge of the needs of the community.

Such decisions are now made by an out of touch MLHD, and are mainly made on political and monetary grounds. They have too much power and refuse to listen to the voices of the community.

In years gone by, local service groups raised funds and with the advice of the board, supplied much needed equipment for our hospital. So many of these were taken from our hospital and given to Wagga Wagga Base. It was criminal. Where was the MLHD? They were in full agreement regarding the fleecing of these machines. We, the community, had no voice and were powerless. This would never have happened if we still had a local hospital board making decisions.

We all have horror stories regarding trips to Wagga Wagga for patients needing urgent help. These are regarding children who have had badly broken legs and arms, who could not receive help in our hospital. Some of which had to wait two days before they could be operated on.

Another is my 90 year old Aunt, who fell and broke her hip. Seriously, who would treat their elderly in such a way? She said the patient transfer to Wagga was an extremely painful trip.

My close friend, who has osteoporosis, fell and SHATTERED her hip. Not just a clean break. Morphine was administered in Griffith before the trip but her pain level was so high, she needed another injection in Narrandera.

I could go on and on. We all have horror stories. Are city people treated to such indignities? NO!

Please give us autonomy to make decisions concerning what we need locally. Please listen to our Doctors, who deal with this on a daily basis. How they keep turning up to work within such a bad system, shows their depth of feeling and concern for their patients.

We desperately need help with this third world country hospital. If we don't get it, the state of the hospital will only deteriorate further.