

**Submission
No 42**

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 18 December 2025

Partially
Confidential

In March 2024, I collapsed while at work and was taken by ambulance to Wagga Wagga Base Hospital. Multiple tests were done with inconclusive findings and I was discharged back to my GP. Two days later, it happened again and we went straight to Emergency. I spent 25 hellish hours there, unable to walk even to the toilet. I was told repeatedly that I would be admitted and given a bed, but this never happened as “sorry there are no beds unless someone else leaves.” At hour 20, I saw a junior doctor - he read my file saying I was unable to walk, and moved the wheelchair away from my chair to see if I would walk to it. I told him I needed help getting into it and he rolled his eyes and moved the wheelchair back. In the consulting room, he then told me my symptoms were psychosomatic and he was prescribing a lorazepam so I could go home and sleep it all off. I cried and felt dismissed and unheard. At hour 24, I agreed to a mental health assessment, and the psychiatrist who did the assessment dismissed the premise of a mental health breakdown. He also took some time to find my patient file because the hospital had transferred my name to a ward (despite me remaining in Emergency). He said this happened a lot because any patients who remained in Emergency over the 24hr mark had to be explained to the Health minister. So the hospital had said that I had been admitted to a ward in order to duck responsibility. I was discharged and my GP and a neurologist later found that I had lesions on my brain and spine from a chronically low Vitamin B12 level. I am still recovering from the damage to my autonomic nervous system. This is a submission about the overcrowding at Wagga Base hospital.