



Legislative Council
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

**INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND
PRISON-RELATED SERVICES**

Ms Amanda Fazio MLC, Chair of NSW Parliament's General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3, has announced the commencement of an inquiry into the privatisation of prisons and prison-related services.

According to Ms Fazio, the inquiry will examine the impact of prison privatisation on:

- public safety and rates of escape
- the incidence of assault on inmates and staff
- disciplinary breaches
- overcrowding
- prisoner classification levels
- rehabilitation programmes, mental health support services and recidivism rates.

'The Committee will also look at whether there are significant differences in staffing levels and employee conditions in private prisons, compared with publicly owned prisons,' Ms Fazio said.

'The privatisation of prison-related services, such as the Court Escort Security Unit and the security of prison perimeters, will also be considered by the Committee.'

'We are particularly interested in examining the experience of prison privatisation in other jurisdictions, both within Australia and overseas,' Ms Fazio said.

The Committee invites written submissions with a closing date of **Friday 27 February 2009** and will hold public hearings after this date.

Submissions can be provided to:

- Email – gpscno3@parliament.nsw.gov.au
- Website – www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc3
- Mail – The Director, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

*For comment please contact Ms Amanda Fazio MLC, Committee Chair, on
(02) 9230 3592 or 0409121595*