

Submission
No 100

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

I originally became a Prison Officer in 1977, resigned in 1996 and rejoined in 2003. I have seen the system evolve into the present professional system it is today. There are no bad workers just bad management as can be seen by the inefficient top managers of this department. How come there only 26 Prisons and over a hundred Governors as well as Cluster General Managers. When management of this department decided to take Prison Governors out of the Prisons and replace them with cluster general managers, what role were the Governors to perform other than to be placed into positions within the department where positions were created for them as the Department could not terminate their service, therefore wasting public monies. Certain people and politicians want to privatise elements of this department in the hope it will save money. Private companies are in business to make a profit and to make a profit, various services for the inmate will suffer and the inmates will be placed at a disadvantage to assimilate back into the community. Officers have been accused of rotting overtime to get more overtime, which is not true when an officer is asked to do overtime if he says no the next officer in line is offered and so on until someone says yes. You only have to look when the officers put on overtime bans, the IDC directs them to go back to working overtime. The only reason Woodham and certain Politicians want to privatize the DCS is to break the union as they don't want to or won't sit down and discuss the problems and work out a solution with the POVB and PSA. If Woodham and the concerned Politicians want to save money, let them start looking closely at all the empires that have risen within the department, i.e. the roster support unit at Silverwater has about 26 Staff on very high salaries including a manager of security and a general manager doing what a roster clerk in the Prison, no sorry that is not true all the roster support staff do is make up 28 day rosters. I find it obscene that public monies are wasted in this manner, when one man in each prison can and does do this work, so we still have roster clerks and the roster support unit which duplicates the roster clerks work. As can be seen by various publications from around the world Private prisons are not as efficient as public prisons and I can't see the reason for privatisation other than to break the union. However this government should realise the labor government is the political arm of the unions, and they should remember how the labor government came into being and why.