

Submission
No 267

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

Name: Mr Christopher Branson

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Inquiry into the privatisation of prisons and prison related services.

I refer to the NSW Government's proposal to privatise certain NSW prisons, these being Parklea and Cessnock prisons along with other corrective services functions such as prisoner transport and court security.

I am fundamentally opposed to the privatisation of any part of our corrective services!

Public controlled corrective services are a fundamental part of a just and fair criminal justice system. To minimise fear or favour these services cannot be beholden to the motivation of profit.

The United States has a privatised prisons system and it is a complete disaster. Few western democracies have the level of incarceration per head of population equal to that of the United States.

Logic suggests that privatised profit making prisons are motivated to ensure or maintain high incarceration rates and therefore ensure profit. They will do this by manufacturing the conditions in which inmates are able to re offend and therefore increase their length of stay. This will increase revenue in the form of government funding which I pay via taxation. As these prisons will be motivated by profit, it is difficult to believe that profit margins will be willingly reduced by implementing prison rehabilitation programs, training and education.

Many of my family, friends and work colleagues are considering this issue. They are unanimous in their opinion that this privatisation will damage the fabric of our legal justice system and more widely the fabric of our community.

I can be contacted at anytime to discuss this issue further.

Yours Sincerely,

Chris Branson