

Submission
No 276

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 22/02/2009

Partially Confidential

Firstly I would like to question the merit of this committee when the minister has publicly announced that regardless of the outcome of the committee Privatisation will go ahead as planned in this state. Secondly I would like to question the legalities of contracts that are handed to GEO or any other companies that have made any "political donations" to either the Liberal or Labour parties of this state (when an employee cannot even take a racing tip of an inmate or their family) if this is allowed why then if an officer receives a gift from an inmate or family member can they not receive it on behalf of a social committee? Despite almost 30 years of prison privatisation worldwide why do the UK and several US state governments on their webpages state that it is inconclusive whether or not privatisation works even a 2005 N.S.W. Senate enquiry stated that "due to the commercial nature of private prisons it is extremely difficult to compare them to public run prisons. An unobtainable report from 2000 states that when inmate transportation was to be privatised the company contracted over 60% of their employees had criminal records ranging from major assaults to drug possession, at the expense of public safety how much does the government expect to save information I have received states that the Dept will retain the lease and running costs of the vehicles. Let me remind the committee of the FAILURES of Victorias and W.A.s attempts at privatisation (the forced take back of the states female prison and the escape of 6 murderers from the supreme court). I would like to point out that in Australia we currently have the highest proportion of inmate in private prisons and we have an 80 per cent recidivism rate. Finally why when Mr Rudd is publicly appealing to all employers to consider retrenching staff would the state government consider privatisation and sending much needed funds offshore as all PRIVATE prison contractors in this country are foreign owned.