

Submission
No 328

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

Organisation:

Name: Name suppressed

Telephone:

Date received: 24/02/2009

Partially Confidential

It is my submission to the committee that privatisation of any NSW prisons should not go ahead. It is my belief that the current system while not without its faults is the best possible system. Prison officers currently receive proper training to ensure their safety & expertise while working within the NSW system. Should the prison system become privatised it would be commercial interests which come first rather than the safety of prison officers & their wards. Privatisation of such a large government organisation would be an unwelcome change within the current financial climate, where so many families rely on these secure government positions. I also have my concerns as a registered nurse of some 26 years experience, that introducing a privatised workforce would mean that many prisoner's medical & psychological needs may suffer due to financial constraints. The prison population has very specific needs which will not be catered for if the driving force that governs them is a company with financial interests. It is my submission that the committee does not agree to privatisation of these two facilities under consideration. Past experience has shown clearly that the level of service once privatisation occurs is diminished. I believe that the current programmes, level of care & incidence of recidivism will be directly affected for the worse by introducing privatisation. We the population of NSW need to know that our prisons are safe for both staff & inmates. Keep prisons public for the benefit of all concerned. Thank you.