

Submission  
No 701

**INQUIRY INTO HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ACCESS TO  
HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES IN RURAL,  
REGIONAL AND REMOTE NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Ms Leonie Bunyan  
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Partially  
Confidential

Good afternoon

Please accept this late submission - I did not know about it.

I moved to Bourke in 1983 and began my nursing training at the then Bourke District Hospital.

At that time and for a few years after, there was a full compliment of staff for all areas, theatres days and emergency operations and a terrific assortment of visiting Specialists.

I've watched the demise of health services over the last few years and as it stands now, no one is safe. The staff are no longer capable of proper care because the higher ups are only out to feather their own nests and the rest of the staff are struggling under the pressure of overwork, and no support.

To expect a whole large and remote district to do without a Doctor on call to come to the hospital when required, is terribly wrong. It's a short matter of time before this will result in death. To expect the district to accept this decision is uneducated and healthcare has become foolhardy in the west.

Would any one of you on this committee put up with this in a city? I think not. Put yourselves in the shoes of the country people who deserve better than this complete disregard, for a few dollars. The people out in the bush deserve better. They are out there doing jobs a lot of people wouldn't do, in conditions that would send a city person screaming indoors and with very little support. Your inquiry has the chance to fix this for the people of the west. Anything LESS than proper 24 hour care WITH bedside consultation, is not good enough.

Thank you for your time.