

# KEEP SHELLHARBOUR / PORT KEMBLA HOSPITAL PUBLIC!

**STOP**

**THE AMERICANISATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH!**

## Petition from Shellharbour, Port Kembla and the surrounding Illawarra district calling on the NSW Government to ensure that our hospitals are publicly operated and kept in public hands

This petition from the population of Shellharbour, Port Kembla and surrounding districts brings to the attention of the House an urgent concern in regards to the current NSW Government's proposal for Shellharbour and other hospitals to be operated by a private provider.

As citizens we are concerned about previous failures when vital services were privatised in our health system. This experience is not isolated to NSW, but across the country and internationally. In the past where privatisations have failed, governments have had to step in and spend considerable amounts of taxpayers' money to ensure these essential services



continue to be provided. A recent example of this was the Port Macquarie hospital, which had to be bought back and was "subsequently paid for twice and then given away", according to the Auditor General of the day.


We are also aware of the NSW Coalition Government's recent cancellation of the contract with a private operator at the Royal North Shore hospital because of the risk to patient care.

The undersigned petitioners therefore ask the Legislative Assembly to intervene immediately to ensure that our hospitals are publicly operated and kept in public hands.

## SUBMITTING THE PETITION

Please bear in mind that in order for the signatures collected to be admissible to the legislative assembly, certain rules must be followed:

-  Each page of signatures must be headed with the words of the request.
-  Every signature must be original handwriting, and signatures must not be pasted on, photocopied or transferred in any other way.

-  The petition must be signed by the people whose names are listed, using their own signature or mark if they are unable to write. Every person signing a petition must write their address after their signature.

Once the petition has been filled out, please return the original petitions to:  
**The Communications and Campaigns Team,  
NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association,  
50 O'Dea Avenue, Waterloo NSW 2017**

