

Name _____

Address _____

Date _____

The Honourable Nathan Rees
Premier NSW
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Premier

I am writing in relation to the decision of the NSW Government to impose a charge on private hospitals for the provision of blood and blood products.

I am concerned that these charges will be passed on to patients who have already paid for blood out of their taxes.

As the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments jointly fund the operations of the National Blood Authority under the terms of the National Blood Agreement, NSW is essentially discriminating against private hospital patients by asking them to pay twice for a service that is already funded through government taxes and charges.

Even if the private hospitals do not pass on the cost directly to individual patients, they will be forced to increase overall hospital charges which will ultimately lead to a rise in health insurance premiums.

Private hospitals provide treatment for thousands of patients each year in my area. Without their vital contribution to the NSW community, the public system would be unable to cope. It is therefore unfair that they, and the patients they care for, should suffer from financial discrimination imposed by the NSW Government as a result of the State's financial ineptitude.

Against this background I ask you to rescind this unjust and discriminatory decision.

Yours sincerely

Signature _____