

**Submission  
No 35**

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE No. 2  
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL HEALTH  
REFORM AND GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION WITH REMOTE, RURAL AND  
REGIONAL COMMUNITIES**

**Name:** Mr Stephen Taverner

**Date Received:** 31 October 2024

The state of rural healthcare is deplorable. People who are unable to travel hundreds of kilometres to access basic care ie seeing a doctor are obviously at a massive health disadvantage.

My location Gulgong is a town of 2500 people and is now the hub of the REZ, with an expanding population new subdivisions are being constructed to meet increased population needs.

We have been without a doctor at the medical practice and the MPS for seven months to date with nothing on the horizon to solve this crisis.

Both Mudgee medical practices have closed their books - so people in Gulgong have nowhere to access care other than drive hundreds of kilometres.

This is a shocking situation and completely unacceptable and no government agency seems to care or offer a solution.

Stephen Taverner

Both have closed their books as they are overwhelmed with the dem