



New South Wales

Health Services Amendment (Splitting of the Hunter New England Health District) Bill 2025

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to dissolve the Hunter New England Local Health District and to constitute the Hunter Local Health District and the New England North West Local Health District.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name, also called the short title, of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the day that is 6 months after the date of assent to the proposed Act.

Schedule 1[2] amends the *Health Services Act 1997* to—

- (a) dissolve the Hunter New England Local Health District, and
- (b) constitute the Hunter Local Health District and the New England North West Local Health District, and
- (c) provide for the transfer of assets, rights and liabilities of the Hunter New England Local Health District.

Schedule 1[1] amends the *Health Services Act 1997* to describe the areas that constitute the Hunter Local Health District and the New England North West Local Health District.

Schedule 2 amends the *Health Services Regulation 2018* to describe the part of the Tenterfield local government area included in the area in respect of which the New England North West Local Health District is constituted.



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This PUBLIC BILL, originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



New South Wales

Health Services Amendment (Splitting of the Hunter New England Health District) Bill 2025

No , 2025

A Bill for

An Act to amend the *Health Services Act 1997* to split the Hunter New England Health District into the Hunter Local Health District and the New England North West Local Health District; and for other purposes.

The LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL has this day agreed to this Bill with/without amendment.

Legislative Council

Clerk of the Parliaments

The Legislature of New South Wales enacts—	1
1 Name of Act	2
This Act is the <i>Health Services Amendment (Splitting of the Hunter New England Health District) Act 2025</i> .	3
	4
2 Commencement	5
This Act is to commence on the day that is 6 months after the date of assent to this Act.	6
	7

Schedule 1 Amendment of Health Services Act 1997 No 154

[1] Schedule 1 Names and areas of local health districts

Omit the matter relating to Hunter New England Local Health District.

Insert in appropriate order in columns 1 and 2—

Hunter Local Health District	City of Cessnock, Dungog, City of Lake Macquarie, City of Maitland, Mid-Coast, Muswellbrook, City of Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter Shire
New England North West Local Health District	Armidale Regional, Glen Innes Severn Shire, Gunnedah, Gwydir, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree Plains, Narrabri, Tamworth Regional, Tenterfield (part), Uralla, Walcha

[2] Schedule 7 Savings, transitional and other provisions

Insert at the end of the schedule, with appropriate part and clause numbering—

Part Provisions consequent on enactment of Health Services Amendment (Splitting of the Hunter New England Health District) Act 2025

Dissolution and constitution of local health districts

- (1) The Hunter New England Local Health District is dissolved.
- (2) The following local health districts are constituted—
 - (a) Hunter Local Health District,
 - (b) New England North West Local Health District.
- (3) Nothing in this clause prevents the amendment of Schedule 1 by an order made under this Act, section 19 or 20.

Transfer of assets, rights and liabilities

- (1) The Minister may, by order published on the NSW legislation website, transfer assets, rights and liabilities of the Hunter New England Local Health District to—
 - (a) Hunter Local Health District, or
 - (b) New England North West Local Health District.
- (2) The operation of an order made under this clause is not to be regarded as—
 - (a) a breach of contract or confidence or otherwise as a civil wrong, or
 - (b) a breach of a contractual provision prohibiting, restricting or regulating the assignment or transfer of assets, rights or liabilities, or
 - (c) giving rise to a remedy by a party to an instrument, or as causing or permitting the termination of an instrument, because of a change in the beneficial or legal ownership of an asset, right or liability, or

- (d) an event of default under a contract or other instrument. 1
- (3) No attornment to the Hunter Local Health District or the New England North
West Local Health District by a lessee of the Hunter New England Local
Health District is required. 2
3
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- (4) No compensation is payable to a person or body in connection with the transfer
of an asset, right or liability by operation of an order made under this clause. 5
6
- (5) State tax is not payable in relation to— 7
 - (a) an exempt matter, or 8
 - (b) anything done because of, or for a purpose connected with or arising out
of, an exempt matter. 9
10
- (6) In this clause— 11
 - exempt matter* means— 12
 - (a) the transfer of an asset, right or liability by operation of this clause,
including, without limitation, an instrument executed only for a purpose
ancillary to or consequential on the operation of this clause, or 13
14
15
 - (b) anything certified by the Minister in writing as having been done in
consequence of the transfer. 16
17
 - State tax* means application or registration fees, duty or another tax, fee or
charge imposed by legislation or another law of the State. 18
19

Schedule 2	Amendment of Health Services Regulation 2018	1
Clause 25	Local health district descriptions	2
Omit “Hunter New England Local Health District” from clause 25(3).		3
Insert instead “New England North West Local Health District”.		4