

Ambulance Employees' Association of South Australia

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est. 1981

Dear Resident of South Australia,

Thank you for your interest in supporting our efforts to secure safe staffing of the SA Ambulance Service, and to eradicate the scourge of ambulance ramping at SA hospitals, in order to ensure a safe community for all South Australians.

The AEA has been advocating on behalf of the community for several years to highlight the inadequate ambulance staffing and practice of ramping, which in combination result in South Australians being blocked from accessing treatment at hospital, and delays in ambulance response to emergencies in the community.

The situation has reached a crisis point with a number of unfortunate, potentially avoidable, deaths of patients both in the community waiting for an ambulance and those ramped in ambulances outside hospitals in recent times. We are doing all we can to prevent further suffering and loss of life.

We have pursued every available avenue to resolve this situation, with no tangible outcome. The recent SA budget announced by the Marshall Government has only three additional ambulance crews for all of metropolitan Adelaide. This will not resolve the chronic underfunding and ambulance shortages across our state and there is nothing in the budget that will resolve hospital ramping. Expanding emergency departments will not eliminate ramping in the absence of increasing overall hospital bed capacity.

Lives are at risk and we now need your help.

This Parliamentary Petition will be submitted to the SA House of Assembly, for consideration and hopefully support of our request. In order to have the best chance of success, it is critical that our petition has significant public support. You can assist us by signing this petition, to send a strong message to Government, that South Australians deserve better. We deserve a prompt ambulance response in our time of need, and we deserve prompt treatment at hospital when needed.

Unlike an online petition, a State Parliamentary Petition needs to be submitted with original signatures of residents of SA and cannot be scanned or faxed. So please sign our petition, and mail **free of charge** to:

AEASA

Reply Paid 85614

WELLAND SA 5007

Yours sincerely,

Phil Palmer

Secretary

Ambulance Employees Association of SA



For updates, please follow us online at aeasa.com.au or our Facebook page 'Ambulance Employees Association'

PETITION

To the Honourable Members of the House of Assembly in Parliament Assembled –

The petition of the undersigned residents of Adelaide and greater South Australia:



We draw attention to the inadequacy of resources for the SA Ambulance Service, which is leading to dangerous delays in ambulance responses.

The practice of ramping is further exacerbating the situation by denying patients access to medical treatment and tying up ambulances preventing their dispatch into the community.

As a result, the community is being exposed to increasing levels of risk from understaffed ambulance services, including the potential for avoidable deaths.

Request:

Your petitioners therefore request that the House will urge the Government to take immediate steps to:

- 1 Provide a long-term sustainable funding stream that provides the resource capacity needed to respond to the escalating demand for ambulance services.
- 2 Eradicate the practice of ramping at South Australian hospitals through whatever means necessary, including additional funding.

Name	Signature	Address (suburb)
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