

KALAMUNDA DISTRICT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, CLOSURE

552. Mr DAY to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the minister's statement that this Labor Government was not elected on a platform of closing down hospitals. Given that the recent Labor-commissioned review of metropolitan health services, which was undertaken by Dr W. Beresford, states under the heading "Future of Kalamunda Hospital" that, in the longer term, this facility should be closed, I ask -

- (1) Can the minister categorically rule out the closure of Kalamunda District Community Hospital now or in the future?
- (2) Will the minister arrange for Dr Beresford to visit the Kalamunda hospital to meet with the staff and local residents to discuss the future of the hospital?

Mr KUCERA replied:

- (1) The configuration of all health services is being examined as part of the Government's process of developing an excellent health system in this State and to underpin the system that already exists. I have not seen the full report which raises the issue of hospital closures. Many reports kick around government on every day of the year. The Government will go forward and develop the reforms in health that I have already outlined. They will be done properly, rationally and sensibly.
- (2) No. That is Dr Beresford's view; it is not my view.