



# Robyn Preston MP

## Member for Hawkesbury

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Friday, 23 October 2020

### **NSW LIBERALS FIXES RED-TAPE REQUIREMENTS FOR VETS IN HAWKESBURY ELECTORATE**

The NSW Government has fixed legislation that would require veterinary clinics in the Hawkesbury Electorate to adhere to strict standards that apply at public hospitals for the use of medical gas.

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP, said changes to the *Gas Legislation Amendment (Medical Gas Systems) Bill* made in the NSW Upper House address laws that unfairly impact local vets.

“These changes will ensure up to 6000 vets across NSW, including many in the Hawkesbury Electorate, are no longer incorrectly captured under the medical gas regulatory scheme proposed by Labor,” Ms Preston said.

“This is a common-sense solution. It fixes an ill-informed amendment that included local veterinary hospitals in laws designed for patients who are administered medical gas in hospitals.

“Labor insisted on these amendments in return for supporting the passage of the NSW Government’s medical gas reforms in August, and made them without consulting a single veterinary stakeholder.

“The NSW Government has worked extensively with the sector since the amendment passed and vets were unanimous that placing them in a medical gas regulation scheme would create a huge unnecessary financial and regulatory burden on their practices.

“The NSW Government could not and would not let that happen.”

Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) President Dr Warwick Vale welcomed the move to amend the legislation.

“The AVA are delighted that the proposed legislative change which could have threatened to unfairly impact the veterinary profession and animals in NSW, has been amended,” Dr Vale said.

“The lack of consultation with the veterinary sector caused the AVA to act immediately with the NSW Government and we, on behalf of the veterinarians in NSW, are pleased with the outcome.”